

Advice to patients during the industrial action: 12th, 26th & 27th January and 10th February 2016



Advice to patients

The NHS is working hard to ensure that as few patients as possible are affected by the industrial action planned for the 12th, 26th & 27th January and 10th February 2016, but some services will need to change.

This leaflet explains how you can access NHS services over this period. It is especially important if you have a long-term health condition or you look after people in vulnerable groups – such as the elderly and young children – that you know what to do on the days of the industrial action.

Planned operations/procedures and outpatients appointments

If you have a planned operation/procedure or outpatient appointment on a day when industrial action is taking place, your hospital will contact you if it needs to be rearranged. If you have not been contacted by the hospital you should first check their website for additional advice. If you are still unsure then contact the hospital direct.

GPs

Your GP practice will be open and working as normal on the days of the industrial action. Given that GPs may experience greater demand than normal over this period, we strongly recommend that you contact them early if you need advice or an appointment.

A&E

If you need emergency care, Accident and Emergency departments will be open for patients with serious and life threatening conditions. As is always the case to ensure that hospitals can treat those who most need it, only those patients with serious and life threatening conditions should visit their A&E.

Other medical needs

If you become ill over this period with a non-urgent condition and need advice, please visit www.nhs.uk, or go to your local pharmacist. For more serious conditions you should continue to contact your GP as usual, or call 111.

If you have regular medication please make sure you have collected your prescription from your GP and have been to the pharmacist to collect it, and have it to hand.