



Please consider filling in a NHS Friends and Family card before leaving. This is a quick and anonymous way to give your views after receiving care or treatment across the NHS.

### Transport

Disabled parking is chargeable and available at both hospitals. To view access guides, visit **AccessAble** (<https://www.accessable.co.uk>) for information and maps.



**If you would like this leaflet translating or in another format telephone: 01254 732194**

যদি আপনি এই লিফলেটটি অনুবাদ বা অন্য আকারে পেতে চান তাহলে মেহেরবানি করে যোগাযোগ করুন: Bengali

Prosimy o kontakt, jeżeli pragniecie Państwo otrzymać niniejszą ulotkę w innym języku lub formacie: Polish

### Contact details

For general enquiries please contact the switchboard on 01254 263555

For further information about East Lancashire Hospitals please visit:

[www.elht.nhs.uk](http://www.elht.nhs.uk)



# A Patient's guide to the Surgical Ambulatory Emergency Care Unit (SAECU)

## SAECU is an emergency surgical clinic covering six specialities:

- General Surgery
- Urology
- Vascular
- Maxillo-Facial
- ENT
- Trauma and Orthopaedics

SAECU offers same day emergency care that allows patients to be assessed, diagnosed and treated by a specialist without being admitted to hospital overnight. This unit is designed for patients who are mobile and not confined to a bed. Please be aware that your individual journey through SAECU may vary from this leaflet.

## How does Surgical Ambulatory Emergency Care Unit work?

### Before You Arrive

You may have been referred to Surgical Ambulatory Emergency Care Unit by your GP, A&E or some other route.



### How to find us

From the main hospital entrance follow the corridor past WHSmith, continue past the main hospital lifts on your left then take the corridor to the left. Surgical Ambulatory Emergency Care Unit is the first unit on the left, opposite the Vascular Clinic on level 1.

### Arrival at SAECU

On arrival please report to reception where you will be asked for your details. If you have recently moved house or changed GP or your telephone number, please let the receptionist know so that your details can be updated.

### Initial Assessment

You will first be seen by a nurse who will take a brief medical history and undertake some basic observations such as heart rate, blood pressure, oxygen levels and blood tests, if you have not already had them done. We aim to do this within 30 minutes of your arrival.



## Doctor/Advanced Nurse Practitioner

After your blood results return, which can take up to 90 minutes, you will be seen by a Doctor or Advanced Nurse Practitioner. They may request further investigations such as X-Ray, Ultrasound or CT scan etc. Alternatively you may be discharged with advice, treated immediately or admitted to hospital for further treatment.



## Next Steps

Once your care in SAECU is complete the staff will let you know any next steps before you leave, which may include a return visit to the unit for continued treatment and senior clinical review. If you have any concerns or require further information, please let the staff know before you leave.



## General notes

Please be mindful that the clinic is staffed by a number of Doctors 24/7 who are on call for emergencies throughout the hospital and will see patients in order of clinical priority. Although it may appear that patients are not being seen in order of attendance, this is not the case and is due to patients being seen by a number of speciality doctors. Our aim is for patients to be seen within a 4 hour time frame. We apologise in advance for any prolonged wait you may experience.

If you have any queries or concerns after you leave the unit please call us on 01254 732521. If your condition worsens call your family doctor.

**After you have left our unit if you consider it an emergency please dial NHS 111 or 999**

