

needle might be passed into the prostate gland through the rectum (or back passage) or through the perineum (skin between the anus and scrotum).

Bone scan

A bone scan is an imaging test. It safely uses a very small amount of radioactive dye to help diagnose problems with your bones.

MDT (Multi-disciplinary Team)

The multi-disciplinary team (MDT) is a team of professionals such as consultant oncologists, surgeons, specialist nurses and imaging specialists. An MDT meeting is a meeting of this group who together make decisions about treatment and care. Your team will then talk to you about your options at your next appointment.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

Please contact us if you need general information or advice about Trust services www.bartshealth.nhs.uk/pals

Large print and other languages

For this leaflet in large print, please speak to your clinical team.

For help interpreting this leaflet in other languages, please ring 020 8223 8934.

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Reference: BH/PIN/635

Publication date: July 2017

All our patient information leaflets are reviewed every three years.

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Patient information

Information for prostate patients at Barts Health

Your GP has referred you to a specialist because your symptoms need further tests. It is important that you have these tests quickly so we can diagnose your problem and start treatment (if needed) as soon as possible.

There are many common conditions that these symptoms could be linked to, including the possibility of cancer.
However most patients referred for further tests do not have cancer.

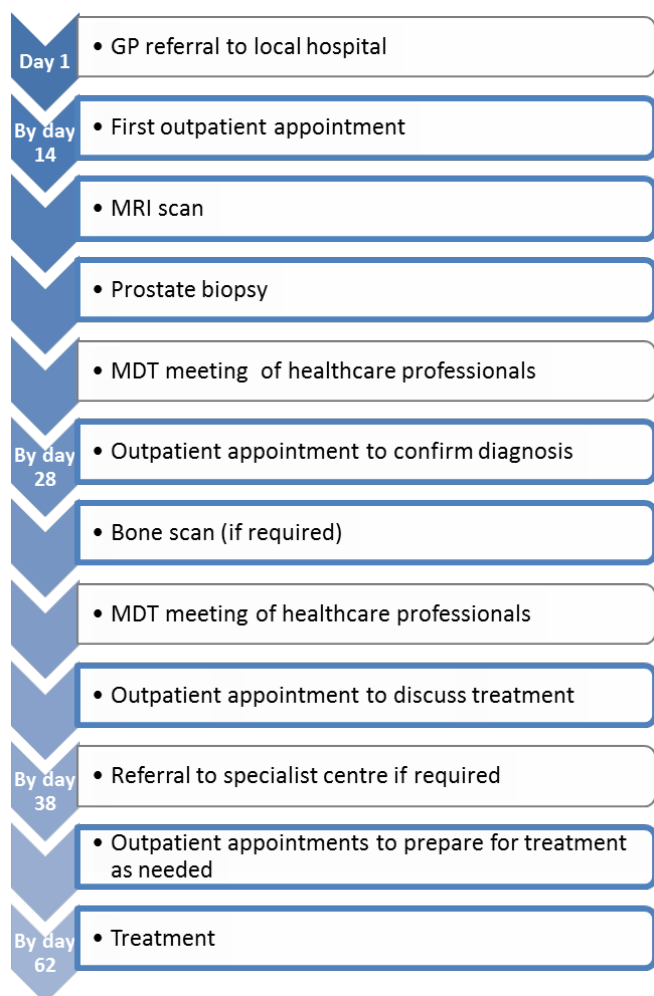


Prostate pathway diagram

The appointments and tests you need to have to examine your symptoms are described as a **pathway**.

This diagram shows the order of the appointments from referral to treatment. Most people will not need all of these tests. If cancer is ruled out early in the pathway, you will not need the rest of the tests.

The boxes highlighted in blue indicate appointments you must attend.



What you need to do

- Please be available for the next two months for appointments.
- If you cannot attend an appointment or are planning to go away, please discuss this with your GP practice or hospital doctor or nurse as soon as possible.
- If you have an emergency and cannot keep your appointment, please let us know immediately by calling this number: 0207 767 3333. You will then need to arrange another appointment.
- We suggest that you bring a friend or family member to appointments if you can.
- Please bring a list of your current medications.
- If a translator is required, please let the hospital know in advance.

*There are national requirements for hospitals to provide a rapid service for this pathway. This is to ensure that those patients who need treatment can start it as soon as possible. **It is therefore important that you attend all the appointments we offer you.***

Glossary

MRI scan

An MRI scan uses a combination of a powerful magnet and radio waves to scan your body and it will provide us with detailed images of your prostate gland.

Prostate biopsy

A prostate biopsy involves passing a small needle into the prostate gland several times to obtain samples for analysis. The