

Where do I need to go?

The preadmission clinic will take place at Walrus outpatients, 1st floor. Your appointment letter explains where to go.

What do I need to bring with me?

Please bring all medications that you take regularly.

If you are on a special diet, please bring food/milk for the first two days as we are unlikely to be able to order special food/milk within this time.

For Parents

If your child is under five years old, please bring their red book.

Please bring what you and your child will need for a stay of several days.

For further information about your child's stay at the Evelina London, please visit our website at www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk.

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Savannah ward on
Tel. 020 7188 8849.

Further information

Evelina London Medicines Helpline

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's medicines, please speak to the staff caring for them or contact our helpline.

t: 020 7188 3003 10am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

e: letstalkmedicines@gstt.nhs.uk

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

To make comments or raise concerns about the Trust's services, please contact PALS.

t: 020 7188 8801 at St Thomas'

t: 020 7188 8803 at Guy's **e:** pals@gstt.nhs.uk

Knowledge & Information Centre (KIC)

For more information about health conditions and local services, please visit the KIC on the Ground Floor, North Wing, St Thomas' Hospital.

t: 020 7188 3416

Language and accessible support services

If you need an interpreter or information about your care in a different language or format, please get in touch on

t: 020 7188 8815 **fax:** 020 7188 5953

NHS Choices

Provides online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you make choices about your health.

w: www.nhs.uk

Savannah Camel Cardiac Surgery Pre-admission Clinic

Leaflet number: 4295/VER1

Date published: September 2016

Review date: September 2019

© 2016 Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

Welcome to preadmission

The Paediatric cardiology team are looking forward to meeting you and your family. Here is some information about the cardiac preadmission clinic at Evelina London Children's Hospital.

What is the preadmission clinic?

This is an outpatient appointment to prepare you and your family for your operation and hospital stay. It checks that you are fit and well for operation.

The preadmission appointment has to be carried out at least a day before the operation. Please allow at least four hours for all tests to be completed.

What is the aim of the appointment?

By carrying out tests and investigations prior to the day of the operation, results will be available in plenty of time reducing the risk of cancellation, avoiding delays and enabling tests to be repeated if necessary.

What happens at the preadmission clinic?

You will meet the preadmission nurse, doctors and play specialist. They will take your medical history and any other information needed before you are admitted to hospital.

The preadmission nurse will explain what will happen before and after your operation. You will be seen by the cardiac surgeon carrying out the operation, either at preadmission or on the day of the procedure. You and your family will be able to ask questions about the operation and you and your family will be asked to give permission by signing the consent form.

All patients are seen by the anaesthetist before their operation, either at preadmission or on the day. The anaesthetist will explain the types of anaesthesia used at the hospital, and the options for pain relief before and after the operation. You can ask for a leaflet regarding anaesthesia.

You will also have the opportunity to meet a nurse from Paediatric Intensive Care unit who will talk to you and your family about what to expect after your surgery.

Tests you will need

Electrocardiograph (ECG)

Heart Scan (ECHO)

Chest X-ray

Various blood tests

These will be discussed with you as they depend on your cardiac condition and the operation you will have. You can have local anaesthetic (numbing) cream put on before the bloods are taken.

Blood tests can include some or all of the following:

- FBC - full blood count, to check if you have low or high number of red blood cells
- U&Es - urea and electrolytes to check you're kidneys are working properly
- Clotting - to check how long it takes the blood to clot
- G&S group and save - to check your blood group, to see if blood transfusion is needed. You will receive a leaflet regarding blood transfusion

The preadmission nurse will also do routine infection screening swabs for all patients admitted to the hospital.

In accordance with hospital policy, all female patients aged 12 years and over will undergo a pregnancy test.

After the appointment

You should not have anything to eat during the six hours before your procedure. You can drink water up to two hours before your procedure. Exact times will be explained to you by the preadmission nurse.

If there is no requirements for you to stay on Savannah ward the night before the procedure, you may have accommodation booked at Gassiot house, which is on hospital grounds, or the Counting House at Guy's Hospital. The preadmission nurse will give you information where to go and when to return to hospital.

Gassiot House Lodge

Only a short walk from the main entrance of the hospital, please refer to the St Thomas' Hospital map.

t: 0207 188 0276

Guy's Counting House Lodge

Counting House, Guy's Hospital

Great Maze Pond

London SE1 9RT

t: 0207 188 0474

There is a shuttle bus which operates between Monday-Friday between the two sites, which you can pick up from either Guy's – at the lay-by adjacent to Nuffield House or at St Thomas' – outside the Florence Nightingale Museum. The frequency of the buses is approximately every 10-15 minutes but there is no set timetable