

# Planned orthopaedic care in north central London

## Your choices

### Service provided by:

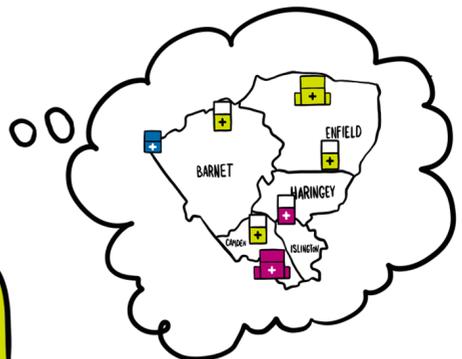
North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust

Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust

Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust

University College London Hospitals NHS  
Foundation Trust

Whittington Health NHS Trust



## Your planned orthopaedic care

The information in this leaflet is for patients who need planned orthopaedic care from a hospital-based team.

- **Planned** (sometimes called 'elective') care is non-emergency healthcare that patients attend through scheduled appointments with clinical teams
- **Orthopaedic care** is care of the bones, joint and muscles

The care you need may include specialist advice, diagnostics (such as x-rays and blood tests) or surgery. This could take place as an outpatient appointment, day surgery or inpatient care or a combination of these.

- **Day surgery** is surgery that can be done in one day, without the need to stay in hospital overnight
- **Inpatient surgery** is surgery that needs a patient to stay in hospital for at least one night.
- **Outpatient appointments** are consultations with a healthcare practitioner. This could be a doctor, nurse or other health professional, to gain a better understanding of your symptoms, discuss a course of treatment or follow-up after surgery.

## Your right to choose

This information is for patients living in Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington who may need planned, hospital-based, orthopaedic care or surgery including hip and knee replacements; and other surgery of hips, knees, shoulders, elbows, feet, ankles and hands.

This leaflet describes your right to choose where to go for that care and what your choices are.

**You are receiving this information because your GP, physiotherapist or another clinician thinks that you could benefit from the care of a hospital-based specialist orthopaedics team.**

If you are referred for a physical or mental health condition in the NHS, in most cases, you have a legal right to choose which hospital or service you go to, as long as that hospital provides the service you need. This includes NHS hospitals and private hospitals that provide this kind of care on behalf of the NHS. You may also choose your clinical team led by a consultant or named healthcare professional, as long as that team provides the treatment you require.

Often, people will choose from their local hospitals; however if you want to be referred somewhere else in London or around the country you can ask what options are available. Even if you don't mind where you go, it is important to know that you have a choice.

To help you decide you can:

- Ask for advice from your GP surgery, physiotherapist, a referral support service or other NHS staff involved in your care.
- Look online, find and compare services and consultants via [www.nhs.uk/patientchoice](http://www.nhs.uk/patientchoice) using the 'services near you' tool.
- Discuss your options with friends, carers and family.

You do not need to choose straight away. You can take some time to consider the information. Tell your clinician that you need more time and they will tell you what to do. All the hospitals or services you are able to choose from provide treatment to NHS patients free of charge, including private hospitals.

*This leaflet focuses on your choice of NHS hospitals in north central London (Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington).*

## North Central London elective orthopaedic network

**The North Central London Elective Orthopaedic Network has been created to improve the care offered to patients. It is based on partnership working between hospital trusts.**

Working together in this way means patients can receive timely, high-quality care. Clinicians from across hospitals will work together as a single team, have joint training and education, and hospitals can share their facilities, opening up access to more dedicated beds and operating theatres.

### What options do I have?

**As a patient you simply need to choose which hospital you would prefer to go to for your outpatient appointments and follow up. This hospital will be where the majority of your care happens.**

**The team from this hospital will oversee all of your care, including any surgery, no matter where that surgery takes place. Not all referrals result in surgery but if it is needed, your choice of hospital for outpatient appointments then determines where this surgery happens.**

When your GP or physiotherapist refers you they will provide you with information about why you need to see a hospital specialist, and may be able to provide further detail about the type of treatment you might need.

When choosing, think about what factors are important to you. These might include the places you receive other NHS care, the ease with which you can travel to appointments, the availability of parking or being close to home, where you work or to friends and family.

See pages 6 and 7 of this booklet.

## Care co-ordinators

Care co-ordinators are members of our team who can offer additional support and guidance to patients throughout their care. They are available for anyone having surgery, but may be particularly useful for patients with a disability, with dementia, a learning disability or anyone who might feel anxious about coming to hospital. They can also support carers and family members.

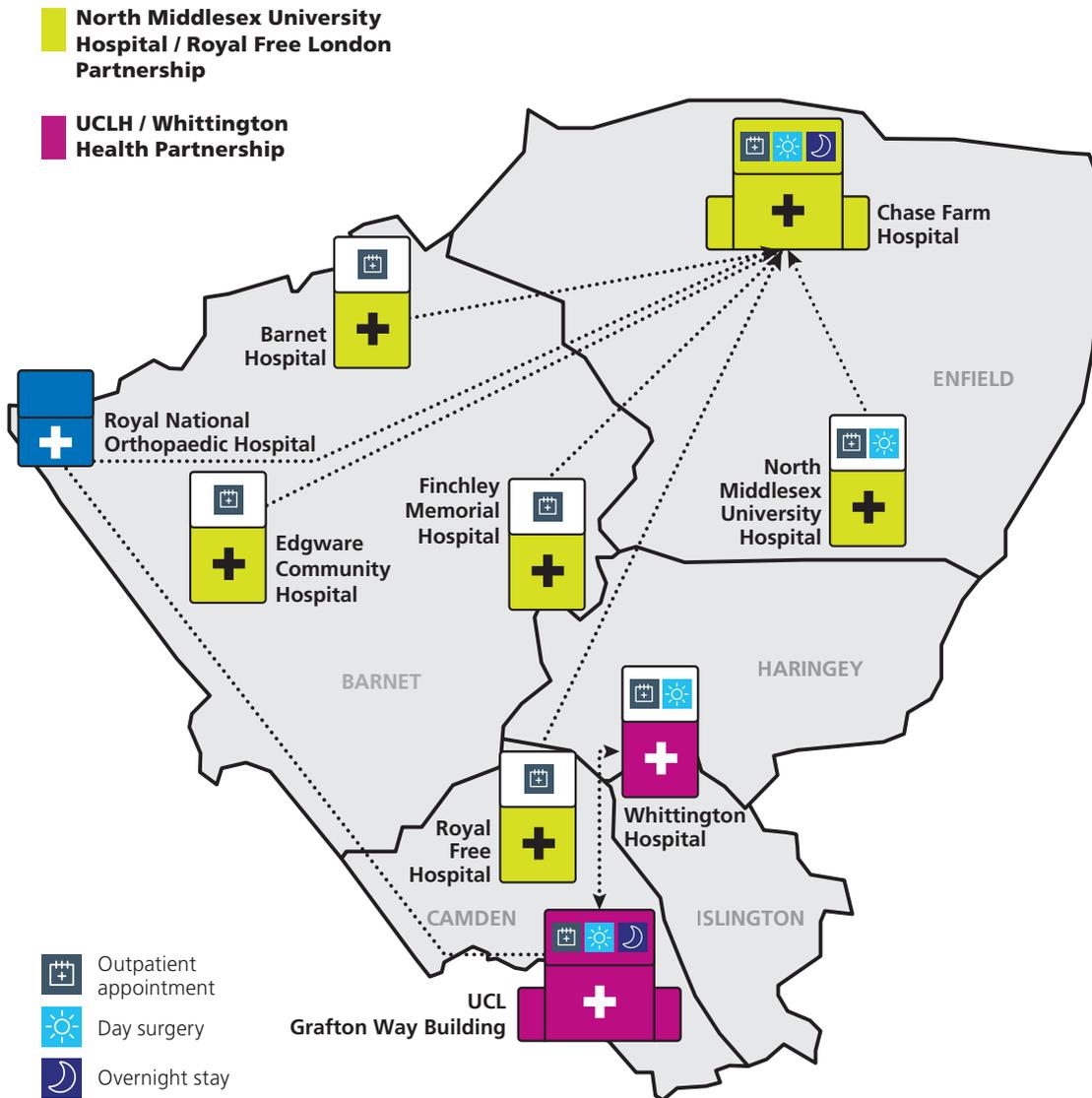
They can help with practical things like information on how to get to appointments, arrangements for going home after surgery, ensure that clinical teams understand any specific needs and also liaise with other teams involved in a patient's care, including other health and social care services.

If you think that you would benefit from the support of a care co-ordinator, please let your GP or physiotherapist know when you choose where to have your care.

### For all patients:

- Your appointments will be with a named surgeon, who, with their surgical team, will oversee your care, no matter where it takes place. Your medical records will be available wherever your appointments take place.
- If you need surgery, it will take place in state-of-the-art facilities with access to high-dependency care if it is needed.
- For hip and knee replacements, you will be offered pre-surgery education classes to help you understand your operation, prepare for surgery and rehabilitation support afterwards.
- The clinical teams in each hospital will work together to give you the very best care and take advantage of the latest research and innovations available to the NHS
- To minimise the chances of an operation being cancelled at the last minute and reduce the risk of infections, planned orthopaedic surgery has been separated from emergency care.

## Your choice in north central London



## University College London Hospitals NHS Trust and Whittington Health NHS Trust Partnership

Clinicians from UCLH and Whittington Health are working together as a team.

- You can choose to have **outpatient** appointments and any follow-up care at University College Hospital or The Whittington Hospital\*.

If you make this choice and need surgery:

- Day surgery** could take place at The Whittington Hospital or University College Hospital Grafton Way Building
- Inpatient surgery** will take place at University College Hospital Grafton Way Building

## Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust and North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust Partnership

Clinicians from North Middlesex University Hospital and Royal Free London are working together as a team.

- You can choose to have **outpatient** appointments and any follow-up care at Barnet Hospital, Chase Farm Hospital, Edgware Community Hospital, Finchley Memorial Hospital, North Middlesex University Hospital or the Royal Free Hospital\*.

If you make this choice and need surgery:

- Day surgery** could take place at Chase Farm Hospital or North Middlesex University Hospital
- Inpatient surgery** will take place at Chase Farm Hospital

If your surgery is more complex, you may be referred to the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital. Your clinical team, GP or physiotherapist will discuss this with you.

\*Some tests directly related to your surgery, may take place at the hospital where you have your operation. The care you receive will be of the same high quality, regardless of where you have it.

You may be offered a video or telephone consultation for some appointments, reducing the need to travel to hospital.

If you would like this information in a language other than English, please visit:

Αν θέλετε αυτές τις πληροφορίες σε γλώσσα διαφορετική από την αγγλική, παρακαλώ επισκεφθείτε:

Bu bilgileri İngilizce'den başka bir dilde istiyorsanız lütfen şu sayfayı ziyaret edin:

اگر می‌خواهید این اطلاعات را با زبان دیگری به غیر از انگلیسی مطالعه نمایید، از این وبسایت بازدید کنید،

Si vous souhaitez lire ces informations dans une autre langue que l'anglais, veuillez consulter:

જો તમે આ માહિતી અંગ્રેજી સિવાયની ભાષામાં ઇચ્છો, તો કૃપા કરીને મુલાકાત લો:

[www.northlondonpartners.org.uk/orthopaedic-patient-choice](http://www.northlondonpartners.org.uk/orthopaedic-patient-choice)

## About North Central London Elective Orthopaedic Network

North Central London Elective Orthopaedic Network offers excellence in orthopaedic care, research and education.

It is provided by North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust, Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust, Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust, University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Whittington Health NHS Trust.

For more information go to:

[www.northlondonpartners.org.uk/ncl-elective-orthopaedic-network](http://www.northlondonpartners.org.uk/ncl-elective-orthopaedic-network)

Patient choice information courtesy of NHS England: Choice in elective care services: [www.england.nhs.uk/patient-choice/elective-care/](http://www.england.nhs.uk/patient-choice/elective-care/)