the Main Day Procedure Unit ward where you will rest until you have recovered sufficiently to get dressed. At this stage you will be given a light snack and discharge information.

If you have general anaesthetic or intravenous sedation you will be asked to wait in the last stage recovery area until a responsible adult relative or friend will collect you to accompany you home. You must not drive or travel on public transport.

You may go home by taxi if you are accompanied by a responsible adult relative or friend.

You must not operate machinery or drive for 24 hours following general anaesthesia or intravenous sedation.

When you get home
If you require medical advice – contact your family doctor or doctor on call.

Wound pain
You may experience mild discomfort or pain in the wound. You will be provided with painkillers on discharge from hospital. Take these as prescribed and finish the course. If the pain becomes increasingly severe or the wound causes anxiety you should contact your doctor immediately for advice.

Rest and diet
You should rest, take only light meals and avoid alcohol for at least 24 hours.

Sickness
If you vomit take fluids only and if you continue to be sick contact your GP or doctor on call.

Return to work
If after one week you feel you are not ready to return to work contact your own GP.

Review arrangements
Any appointments necessary for your wound management for example removal of stitches will be explained before you leave the Day Procedures Unit. Subsequent review appointments at the outpatients department will be sent to your home address. If you require further investigations such as X-rays this appointment will also be sent to your home address.

For more information contact:
Day Procedure Unit
Causeway Hospital
4 Newbridge Road
Coleraine
BT52 1 HS

Email:
info@northerntrust.hscni.net

Website:
www.northerntrust.hscni.net

This document is available, on request, in accessible formats, including Braille, CD, audio cassette and minority languages.
Aims of service
The Day Surgery staff are committed to ensuring you receive a high standard of care throughout your admission and the aim of this leaflet is to introduce you to the Day Surgery Unit and inform you about your stay.

Location
The Day Procedure Unit is located to the left of the main hospital entrance and has its own entrance.

Preparation before arrival
- You MUST confirm your admission date as stated on your admission letter
- If you are having a general anaesthetic or intravenous sedation you MUST arrange to have a responsible adult to collect you from the unit and be with you for 24 hours following discharge.
- Children under 16 years must be accompanied at all times by a parent or legal guardian.

Fasting guidelines
For your own safety you MUST follow the enclosed fasting instructions, otherwise your operation will be cancelled.

Medication
- This should be taken as usual. Please bring your medication with you including inhalers. Do not omit due to fasting. Diabetic medication should not be taken on the morning of surgery if you are having general anaesthetic or sedation.
- If you are presently taking WARFARIN please contact your GP immediately as it may be necessary to stop this medication.
- If you take tablets for high blood pressure continue to take these on the day of your admission.
- If you are diabetic please contact the Day Surgery Unit for further advice.

Hygiene
- Have a bath or shower on the morning of your admission
- Remove all make up and nail polish
- Please bring a dressing gown and slippers with you

Valuables
- Do not bring any valuables or jewellery with you to the unit with the exception of wedding rings.

There are restrictions on the use of mobile phones

When you arrive
Please report to reception which is inside the Day Procedures Unit entrance. You will be greeted by a member of the reception staff who will inform the nursing staff of your arrival.

A nurse will come to reception and take you to the appropriate area for your treatment. The nurse will complete an assessment form and if necessary, a doctor will be able to get your consent and ensure you fully understand the procedure. Please tell the nurse or doctor if you have any allergies or bad reactions to drugs or other tests.

You will then be shown where to change. Your personal belongings will be stored in a patient property bag. This bag will travel with you as you continue your journey through Day Procedure. You will then be taken to the waiting area until a member of the theatre staff comes to take you to the theatre. There will be a waiting period before surgery. We will try to ensure that this is as short as possible but sometimes there are unexpected delays.

Following surgery you will be nursed in the recovery ward for a period of time. When you are fully awake and comfortable you will be transferred to second stage recovery area of