Suspected Scaphoid Fracture

What is a scaphoid fracture?

A scaphoid fracture/break is when the scaphoid bone, which is in your wrist, is broken/fractured. Scaphoid fractures are usually caused by falling on an outstretched hand. Fractures are just one cause of wrist pain.

Diagnosis

We follow the royal college of emergency medicine (RCEM) guidelines on diagnosis of scaphoid fractures. If your emergency nurse practitioner (ENP)/doctor thinks you have a fracture, he or she will usually request initial x-rays for diagnosis. If the x-ray shows an injury, your practitioner will start treatment. If the x-rays don't show a conclusive injury, you may get a splint for your wrist, and your practitioner may request a CT scan. This will help them decide what is causing your pain, and what type of treatment you need.

Where and when will I have my CT scan?

Your CT scan of your scaphoid will be arranged as an outpatient in Musgrave park hospital. You can expect to get your appointment by post or by phone from a private number. The scan is usually completed within 10 working days, however waiting times may be longer.

After my scan

Your CT scan needs to be reported by a radiologist, this is not usually the same day, so we cannot see you immediately after you scan. You need to phone the emergency department **the day after you have been scanned** for a telephone consultation or to arrange a follow-up appointment.

Once your CT scan is complete contact the emergency department:

02896151069

If you haven't received an appointment for CT within 10 working days contact the emergency department:

02896151040