

PATIENT INFORMATION

What is TIA?

TIA Clinic Patient Information

What is a TIA?

A TIA (Transient Ischaemic Attack), most commonly known as a mini-stroke, is similar to a stroke, with symptoms such as speech and visual disturbance and numbness or weakness in the face, arms and legs but the symptoms resolve quickly and completely within 24 hours. However, there is a potential risk of a further TIA or a stroke but in the TIA clinic you will be assessed and treatment recommended to help to prevent another TIA or a full stroke happening in the future. If you are suspected to have had a TIA, your GP or Emergency Department will refer you via email to the Stroke Team at Torbay Hospital and a secretary will contact you by 'phone to arrange an appointment.

Where is the TIA Clinic?

The TIA clinic is held at Torbay Hospital, Outpatient Department, Level 2 (Navy Zone).

What should I do?

- Your GP will refer you to the Stroke Team via email. If you are given a copy of the referral, please bring it along to the clinic with you.
- A Stroke medical secretary will contact you by 'phone to agree an appointment.
- **Please arrive at 13:30 on the day of your appointment and report to the Outpatient Reception Desk, Level 2.**
- Please bring a list of all your medications or copy of your most recent prescription.
- Do not stop any of your usual medications.
- Do not drive after a TIA or stroke for a minimum four weeks. So please do not drive until you are seen and assessed in the clinic.

What will happen at the clinic?

At the clinic you will be seen and assessed by a specialist. The doctor will ask you to provide a detailed history of your symptoms and perform a clinical examination. You will be referred for appropriate and necessary investigations, which may include measuring your blood pressure, an ECG, carotid Doppler scan (scan of arteries to the brain) and if needed, a scan of your brain (CT or MRI).

Your consultation and assessment may probably take the whole afternoon.

After the consultation, if you are diagnosed as having had a TIA, the consultant will commence you on the appropriate treatment and make recommendations to your GP regarding future treatment.

If you have any queries, please contact the Stroke Medical Secretaries: ☎ 01803 654847 or 01803 656480

For further assistance or to receive this information in a different format, please contact the department which created this leaflet.