

### What is a Local Emergency Centre?



The Local Emergency Centre (LEC) includes all the following services in one area of the hospital.

- Minor Injuries Unit
- Medical Assessment Unit
- Out of Hours GP Services

This leaflet describes what each of these does and how you may be treated and cared for if you need any of these services.

### Minor Injury Unit (MIU)

Our minor injuries unit is staffed by Emergency Nurse Practitioners (ENPs).

An ENP is a highly qualified nurse who has had extra training in the assessment and treatment of many minor injuries.

Depending on how serious your injury is, they may be able to treat and care for you without the need for you to see a doctor.

ENPs can treat the following injuries

- Limb Injuries
- Falls from lower heights (2 metres or less)
- **Please note** - falls from distances higher than 2 metres (or 5 steps on a ladder) may result in a more serious injury and would need to be assessed by a specialist at another hospital.
- Wounds & Burns
- Eye Problems
- Minor Head and face injuries (not for children under the age of 1 year)
- Minor Ear Nose and Throat (ENT) problems including foreign bodies
- Minor neck injuries
- Minor back injuries
- Minor chest injuries (but not those requiring an X-Ray)
- Insect, animal or human bites

## ENPs can also:

- Provide prescriptions or administer medicines
- Request and interpret X-Rays
- Reduce minor dislocations
- Apply casts and splints
- Remove foreign bodies

If you come to the LEC with any of these conditions, you will be assessed by a qualified nurse who will assess three things :

- 1) The urgency of your condition
- 2) Who is the best person to assess your condition
- 3) Where the best place for your condition to be treated is

If the Minor Injury Unit is not the best place to treat you, we may need to transfer you to one of the other services in the LEC, or, to another hospital for a specialist opinion.

This transfer can be done by a triage nurse, they might transfer you to:

- The Medical Assessment Unit in YYF
- The Out of Hours Services in YYF
- The Accident & Emergency Department at another hospital.
- Your own GP or Pharmacist

## Medical Assessment Unit (MAU)

The Medical Assessment (MAU) is staffed with Doctors, Advanced Nurse Practitioners (ANP), and Qualified Nurses.

These staff can assess and treat the following patients :

- Patients that have been directly referred from their GP
- Patients with medical problems that have been transferred by ambulance.

Paramedics are trained to know exactly which symptoms can be safely treated in the Medical Assessment Unit.

## GP Out of Hours



The Out of Hours Service in the hospital can assess and treat patients who have an appointment arranged through the Out of Hours telephone number **0845 600 1231**.

**The GP Out of Hours service** can also see patients redirected from the Minor Injury Unit with an illness or condition that requires an urgent assessment.

Depending on what this assessment tells us, it may be decided that you can wait to see your own GP the next day.

If so, you will be given a letter for your own GP explaining everything, a copy of this letter is also faxed to the surgery for their records.

### **Transfer to other hospitals**

It may be that you have an injury or condition that needs to be treated in another hospital as this is where the specialist doctors for that condition are based.

Examples of these are :

- Ear Nose & Throat
- Gynaecology
- Maxillofacial (serious treatment to the mouth or face)
- Ophthalmology
- Surgery (although surgery does take place in YYF, emergency surgery does not)
- Urology
- Orthopaedics
- Paediatrics

If this happens transfer arrangements can be made so that your waiting time doesn't start from scratch, but takes into consideration that you have already waited in YYF.

If you need further information about the LEC, please ask a member of our staff in the centre, or call 01443 802200.

You can also contact us through our website  
**[www.aneurinbevanhb.wales.nhs.uk](http://www.aneurinbevanhb.wales.nhs.uk)**