

# SURGICAL PATHWAY

*for Adult Patients with Learning Disabilities and/or Autism.*

## PRE ASSESSMENT

- Complete Pre assessment screening
- Discuss with senior anaesthetist for anaesthetic review and suitability of listing as a day patient
- Consider what reasonable adjustments \*1 the patient requires and document any identified on the pre assessment documentation
- Inform VIPteam@midyorks.nhs.uk and the relevant Waiting List Clerk which pathway the patient requires.



### PATHWAY 1 (P1)

#### Patient Presentation

- Patient able to wait
- Willing to accept most interventions i.e. bloods, BP

#### Consider Any Reasonable Adjustments

- Lidocaine with prilocaine (Denela/ Emla)
- Parents or carers support in anaesthetic room
- Consider early Post Op discharge

Document reasonable adjustments needed on theatre list.

### PATHWAY 2 (P2)

#### Patient Presentation

- Anxious patients who challenge existing ways of working

#### Consider Any Reasonable Adjustments

- Contact VIPteam@midyorks.nhs.uk 01924 543692 ext: 53692 to discuss a need for a pathway discussion \*2
- Adjustments same as P1 patients plus
- First on operating list
- Quiet or secluded areas on unit to wait
- Consider use of oral sedation \*3

Document reasonable adjustments needed on theatre list.

### PATHWAY 3 (P3)

#### Patient Presentation

- Patient difficult to get into hospital, very anxious, disruptive and non-compliant

#### Consider Any Reasonable Adjustments

- Pathway discussion needed.
  - Adjustments same as P1 & P2 plus
  - Home sedative required \*4
- Document reasonable adjustments needed on theatre list.

### PATHWAY 4 (P4)

#### Patient Presentation

- Unable to access Pre Op Clinic, Total non-compliance. Patient exhibiting disruptive, aggressive behaviour.

#### Consider Any Reasonable Adjustments

- Pathway meeting ESSENTIAL contact VIPteam@midyorks.nhs.uk 01924 543692 ext: 53692
- Adjustments same as P1, P2, P3 plus
- Anaesthetist and Lead Nurse for Learning Disabilities and Autism meet patient in car in the carpark
- Administer oral sedation
- Escort patient straight to theatre
- Discharge Post Op as soon as patient is indicating a wish to leave and it is safe to do so.

Document reasonable adjustments needed on theatre list.

## GUIDELINES

*Please consider these guidelines when following the surgical pathway for adult patients with a learning disability and/or autism.*

- \*1 **Reasonable Adjustments** – The Equality Act 2010 states changes or adjustments should be considered and made to ensure equality of access to services for people who have a disability. Examples of reasonable adjustments on a surgical pathway include first on the list, sedative given at home, straight from car park into theatre.
- \*2 **Pathway discussion** – person centred discussion, which can be via email, detailing what, where and how the patient will access the hospital for their surgery; this includes agreement of any reasonable adjustments needed.
- \*3 **Oral sedation** – consider the use of oral / buccal midazolam.
- \*4 **Home sedative** – required to support patients to attend hospital. The use of a home sedative is often decided as a result of a Best Interest/ pathway discussion.

This guidance is not exhaustive and reasonable adjustments considered must be specific to patient need.