

# NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Virtual Hospital Care: Discharge to Virtual Review

## ○ What is Discharge to Virtual Review?

Discharge to Virtual Review means you are **well enough to go home**, but you still **need follow-up blood tests** to help your hospital team complete your care.

Instead of staying in hospital to wait for your blood tests, you can **recover at home within our Virtual Hospital** and return for your blood tests when your appointment is ready.

This helps you:

- **Get home sooner**
- **Rest and recover in familiar surroundings**
- **Avoid staying in hospital longer than you need to.**

## ○ Why am I being offered this?

Your hospital team has checked that:

- You are **medically fit to leave hospital**
- It is **safe for you to go home**
- You still need **monitoring (blood tests)**.

You have been offered Discharge to Virtual Review because it is **safe, planned, and supported**.

Remember 'It's Okay to Ask', the hospital team will make sure you understand the Benefits, Risks, and Alternatives including doing nothing (We call this BRAN).



# ○ What happens next?

## 1. Going home

Before you leave hospital, we will:



**Explain why it is safe** for you to go home



**Talk through any symptoms** to watch out for



**Give you clear advice** on who to contact if you feel unwell.

The team are happy to answer your questions, you should feel confident and informed about going home before you leave the hospital.

## 2. Your blood test appointment

After you go home:

- The **Virtual Hospital will contact you**
- The staff will **book your blood test for you**
- We will phone you **with the appointment details (date/time/location)**
- Appointments are usually arranged within a few days and up to one week depending on your clinical need.

**You must be able to attend a clinic for your blood test as blood tests cannot currently be carried out at home.**

### 3. Your Virtual Review

After your blood test:

- A clinician will review your results
- You will have a telephone or video consultation to discuss your care
- The team will explain what will happen next:
  - if your results are reassuring, you may be discharged from the pathway
  - if further care is needed, your clinical team will explain the next steps.

### 4. What should I do while I'm at home?

While waiting for your appointment:



**Follow the advice** given by your hospital team



**Attend your blood test appointment** as arranged



**Rest and recover** as you normally would



**Get help urgently if you feel worse.**

Your hospital team will give you **clear instructions** on:

- Which symptoms mean you should get help
- Who to contact during the day
- What to do out of hours.

**If you are worried, do not wait for your appointment.**

## ○ Common questions

- **Is this safe?**

**Yes.** This option is only offered when your team feels it is safe for you to go home with the right advice and support. If you are unsure, please talk to us before you leave. We want you to feel confident before leaving the hospital.

- **Will my test be delayed because I went home?**

**No.** Your test is still prioritised and arranged as part of your hospital care.

- **Do I need to contact my GP?**

**No.** This is organised through hospital services. Once complete, your GP will receive a copy of the results.

- **What will happen if I miss my appointment?**

The team will contact you and discuss next steps.

## ○ Contact Information

### **If you have a non-urgent concern**

Contact the Virtual Hospital between 8.00am and 10.00pm, 7 days a week by calling **0800 652 1425**. Your enquiry will be passed to a member of the clinical team for advice.

### **If you think it's urgent but not life-threatening**

Call **NHS 24** on **111**.

### **If you think your condition is life threatening**

Go straight to your nearest **A&E** or call **999**.

