

Contact Information

If you have any questions prior to your appointment with us please get in touch and we'll be delighted to help



Freephone 0808 280 3560



csp.getintouch@nhs.net



cotswoldsurgicalpartners.co.uk



Registered office & main centre

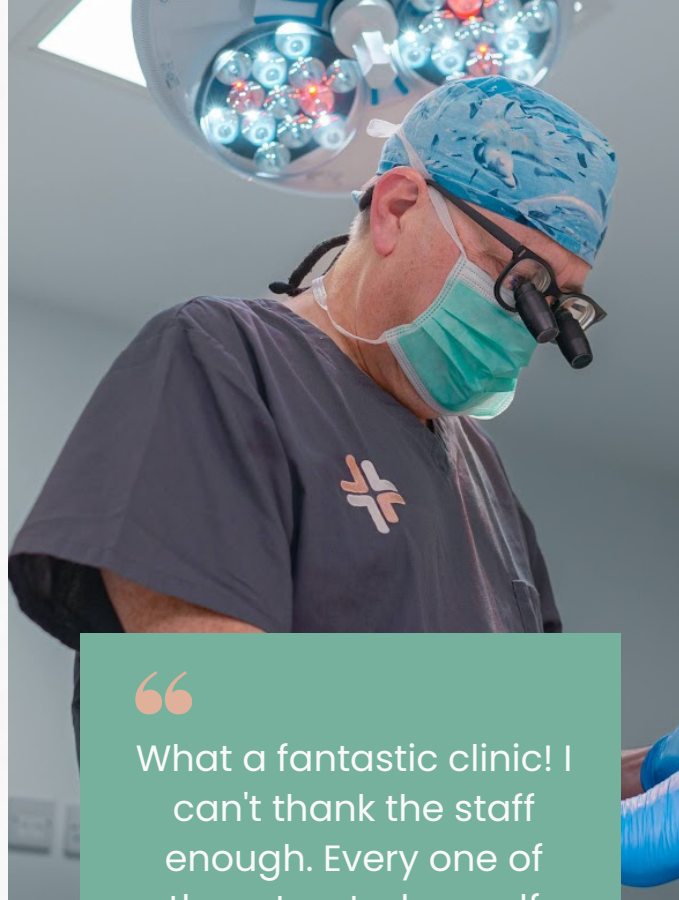
Unit 13 Interface Business Park
Royal Wootton Bassett
Wiltshire
SN4 8SY



Services also provided at:

Spa Medical Centre
Snowberry Lane
Melksham
SN12 6UN

Your appointment confirmation letter/email will detail the location of your appointment.



“

What a fantastic clinic! I can't thank the staff enough. Every one of them treated myself and my wife with the utmost respect. Nothing was too much and I was made to feel at ease. Thank you every single one of you!

”

Regulated by



cotswoldsurgicalpartners.co.uk



Your local
consultant-led
skin care clinic



Important Information
for your appointment



COTSWOLD
SURGICAL PARTNERS
QUALITY CARE, LOCALLY DELIVERED

Welcome

You have been referred to us for your skin surgery and we'll be with you every step of the way.

We are a **Care Quality Commission** regulated skin Plastic Surgery & Dermatology clinic based in Royal Wootton Bassett, on the edge of Swindon in Wiltshire. We also offer certain procedures from our clinic at Spa Medical Centre in Melksham.

This leaflet is to be read alongside your appointment confirmation letter, and is designed to provide generic information. For further information on your specific procedure, please do get in touch and we will be very happy to help.

Depending upon your condition, one of a number of procedures may be required. You will have a full consultation with the Plastic Surgeon prior to your surgery to discuss the best option for your particular lesion/s.

The particular type of surgery you require is often not decided until the day of the surgery when examined carefully by the Plastic Surgeon.

Depending upon the size and location of the lesion, the options to close the area are explained in the enclosed leaflet.



What to expect

We understand that every patient has unique circumstances and requirements. It is our commitment to you, to take the time to listen and understand what you would like support with and what your ultimate expectations are.

We know that this can be a sensitive and personal topic, so all of our teams and partners are trained and experienced to support you with the care that you rightly expect.

Cotswold Surgical Partners, as the service provider, is responsible for your care in both locations. Please see the 'Contact Information' section for all enquiries.

“Made to feel very **welcome** from Reception to Surgery. Lovely staff, painless procedure. A **pleasure** from start to finish”

Plastic Surgery Patient - November 2023



Providing NHS services

- ✓ Excellent clinical care with low infection rates
- ✓ Efficient service with low wait times compared to national average
- ✓ High levels of patient satisfaction and engagement
- ✓ Your own GP will be kept informed of the procedure you have had and the histology results.
- ✓ A robust, efficient and flexible administrative service co-ordinating the entire experience, from referral to follow up appointment.

“The physical and emotional care was **outstanding**. The staff were so friendly and **caring**.”

Plastic Surgery Patient - November 2023

If you would like this information in an alternative format, please contact us.

For a copy of our Privacy Policy please visit our website or email us at:
csp.data@nhs.net

Please see our website for our current opening hours.

Procedure Guide

Direct Closure

This is where the two wound edges are brought together and stitched closed. For this type of procedure your stitches would normally be removed by your own GP's practice nurse at a recommended interval post surgery.

Full Thickness Skin Graft

This involves taking a 'full thickness' layer of healthy skin from a different area of the body to replace the skin where the lesion has been removed. The area where the new healthy skin is taken from is called the donor site, which is typically in front of your ear, your shoulder or your groin. The decision regarding the donor site will depend on the size of graft required and the proximity to the lesion. The donor site is directly closed (see section 'Direct Closure') and then this new healthy skin is stitched in to place where the lesion has been removed. This is called the graft site. The skin graft over the next week should pick up a blood supply from the tissue underneath to keep this new skin viable.

Full-thickness grafts blend in well with the skin around them and tend to have a good cosmetic outcome.

A review appointment may be required and this will be explained following your procedure.

Split Skin Graft

This involves taking a thin layer of skin (as thin as tissue paper) from a different area of the body to replace the skin where the lesion has been removed. The area where the new healthy skin is taken from is called the donor site, which is typically on your thigh. The donor site can often be more uncomfortable than the area where the graft is applied, but taking regular pain relief will help with this. A special dressing is applied to help stop any bleeding and this is covered with padding. The new healthy skin is glued in to place where the lesion has been removed. This is called the graft site. The skin graft over the next week should pick up a blood supply from the tissue underneath to keep this new skin viable.

A review appointment may be required and this will be explained following your procedure.

Local Flap

This involves taking a piece of skin adjacent to the lesion site and moving/rotating it in to replace the skin where the lesion has been removed, but it remains attached by a small section and therefore retains a limited blood supply. A review appointment may be required and this will be explained following your procedure.

This guide provides some information on the different procedures that may be completed to treat your lesion/s. The procedure chosen will vary upon the condition, it's location and a variety of factors that our Surgeon will review and discuss with you during your appointment.

Your appointment confirmation letter also provides some important information and considerations for you to be aware of prior to your surgery day. This includes:

- Ensure you bring a chaperone with you, unless specifically agreed in advance. Surgery is not guaranteed to continue otherwise for your safety.
- The appointment is for a surgical procedure in an operating theatre. A period of aftercare may be required, which could include post-operative care review visits. You will be issued with aftercare guidance relevant to your completed procedure and our nursing team will support you.
- Certain procedures, dependant upon the lesion and the location, may require a period of rest to allow the wound to heal. If you have any travel or physical activities planned for the days following your procedure please talk to us beforehand to ensure surgery is safe to continue.

Before your operation

PLEASE CONTACT US IF :

- You are taking Warfarin, Aspirin, Clopidogrel, Dipyridamole, Ticagrelor, Apixaban, Dabigatran, Rivaroxaban, Edoxaban or any other blood thinning medication.
- You have a known infection risk such as hepatitis B or hepatitis C or HIV
- You have a condition which makes you bleed more easily eg Haemophilia
- You have had major surgery within the last 3 months.
- You have travel plans or physical activities planned in the immediate days after your scheduled surgery date, which could affect the procedure location.
- You do not have anyone that can accompany you to the appointment.

On the day of the surgery please:

- eat normally and take all your regular medications unless advised otherwise.
- arrange for someone to drive you to the appointment.
- do not wear make up or jewellery if you are having facial surgery (including foundation, mascara, eye shadow and lipstick).

PARKING & ARRIVING AT THE SURGERY

Your appointment confirmation letter details the location of your appointment, with a map and full address. Free onsite parking is available at both of these locations. If you are unsure of where to attend, please contact us prior to your surgery date.

During your operation

The Plastic Surgeon will inject local anaesthetic around the site, which numbs the area.

This will sting briefly but you should not feel any pain during your operation.

If you do have any discomfort, please let the doctor know as you can be given more anaesthetic if required.

The anaesthetic only numbs the affected area. You will be awake for the operation and you will be able to go home afterwards.

The operations usually take between 30 and 60 minutes, more complex surgery will of course take longer.

Should you have multiple lesions requiring surgery, treatment for these lesions will often be performed on separate visits. Our booking team will arrange this with you.

Though we cannot allow the person who has travelled with you to join you in surgery, they are more than welcome to wait in our reception area. For this reason we ask that you only bring one person with you. Our reception team will ensure they are well looked after.

Please note we are an 18+ service only and kindly ask that children are not brought to your appointment.

After your operation

Depending on the procedure that is completed, full instructions, both written and verbal, will be provided on the day of surgery for you to take home, along with contact information should you require any further or on-going support.

The type of stitch we use depends on the operation and your skin. Some stitches are dissolvable; others need to be removed and are usually taken out 7-14 days after surgery.

If you are due to go on holiday within 2 weeks of your operation we may need to reschedule your operation so that stitch removal can be arranged without interfering with your arrangements. This is one of the reasons we ask you to notify us prior to surgery if you have any plans in the immediate aftermath of your planned surgery date, so we can better plan your care.

RISKS AND SIDE EFFECTS

Any operation will have risks including bleeding and wound infection. The doctor performing the operation will discuss these and any additional risks with you at the time of operation, and will only begin the procedure with your informed consent.

