

Contact us

Swindon Memory Service

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For information on Trust Services visit www.awp.nhs.uk

PALS

To make a comment, raise a concern or make a complaint, please contact the Trust's Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

Tel: 01225 362900 Free phone: 0800 073 1778

Email: awp.PALS@nhs.net

Other formats and languages

If you need this information in other formats (such as large print, Braille) or in another language, please call the PALS number.

Lead: Team leader
Leaflet code: AWP Aug 2010-144A
Next review due August 2020

Swindon Memory Services



**Early assessment, diagnosis, support
and treatment for people with
memory problems**

Who are we?

The Memory Service is made up of specialist memory nurses, psychologists and doctors. We have access to occupational therapists, speech and language Therapists and physiotherapists to help us make an accurate diagnosis.

Who is the Memory Service for?

The Memory Service is for people who are concerned about their memory or thinking ability and think it is affecting their day to day life.

We aim is to make sure that everybody worried about a memory or thinking problem is thoroughly assessed, appropriately diagnosed and that this diagnosis is given in a sensitive way.

By helping people understand the cause of their memory problem and any likely future changes, we hope to help them find ways to manage their situation and deal with things more confidently.

We will provide information and support in a format which suits the individual and can give information and advice to carers and families.

What to do first

If you are concerned about your memory or the memory of someone close to you, it is important to visit your GP first to discuss your concerns.

There are many medical conditions that can affect memory and these need to be diagnosed and treated first.

Your GP will ask you to have some blood tests to rule out other causes for your memory loss.

What will the Memory Service do?

We will send you a clinic appointment with a specialist memory assessor. During this appointment they will talk with you about your memory difficulty, complete some memory assessments with you and discuss the effects of any problems or issues.

The assessor will also begin to tell you about any support or information that may help you manage the memory difficulty.

We encourage you to bring someone with you to talk about this together.

You may also be given an appointment to go for a head scan. This will give helpful information to work out the reason for your memory problem.

Occasionally, you may be asked to come to further appointments for more detailed memory testing.

Once we have all this information, you will be offered an appointment to discuss the results of these tests. We will explain what the results mean and the diagnosis if there is one. You will also be able to ask any questions and we can talk about medication and support to help you manage the situation.

Next steps

Depending on the results, there are several possible next steps.

- You and those close to you may be offered a further appointment to discuss the diagnosis and what this means for you and your family.
- You could receive information and advice about the different services that may be of use to you or your family/carers.
- If you have been offered medication, you will receive a further appointment to review this.
- We will give you information about the specialist post-diagnostic groups that our specialist staff are running in your area. This may be a way for you and your family/carer to meet other people with similar difficulties, to share experiences and look at things that may help.