

**Acute Medicine Referrals from GPs to King’s College Hospital, Denmark Hill**

**What is the Ambulatory Care Unit (ACU)?**

**The Ambulatory Care Unit (ACU) is a Consultant led service, which offers same day care to patients at the hospital. This means that patients are assessed, diagnosed, treated and are able to go home the same day, without being admitted into hospital overnight.**

**This is a Referral ONLY service.**

**Our Aims:**

1. Treat patients in an ambulatory (outpatient) setting, avoiding admission where possible.
2. Work closely with GPs to prevent hospital admissions, and at the same time excel in our mutual efforts to provide best patient care and satisfaction.

**Which patients?**

 Any unwell patient with a medical illness or diagnosis.

**What can you/your patient expect from this service?**

1. Prompt clinical review without your patient waiting in ED.
2. Acute Medical Consultant review of all patients.
3. Investigations as appropriate; Follow-up appointment in the Ambulatory Care Unit (ACU), if clinically required
4. Direct admission to the Acute Medical Unit, if clinically indicated.
5. Phone advice/discussion – if you just wanted to talk about a patient.

**What is the Referral Pathway to Acute Medicine at KCH?**

**Where is the Ambulatory Care Unit (ACU) located?**

**The ACU** is situated on Ground Floor, Hambleden Wing (co-located with the Emergency Department).

Entrance from the ED Triage area. Ask for ACU/Look for directions to ACU.

 **Working Hours of ACU**

**Monday – Sunday, AND on Bank Holidays from 08:00-20:00. Last patient accepted into the unit at 18:00**

For any general queries please email: viveksharma@nhs.net (Clinical Lead Acute Medicine)

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Open: Monday – Sunday 08:00 – 20:00 with the last referral being accepted at 18:00