



University Hospitals Birmingham
NHS Foundation Trust



Patient Information on Clinical Photography

Building healthier lives

UHB is a no smoking Trust

What is Medical Illustration?

We are a department within the NHS which employs Clinical Photographers and graphic designers, to produce photographic images and artwork for the Trust.

The images that we create can be used for the purposes of teaching, research, publication or for the patients clinical records.

Why am I here?

You may have been asked by your consultant, or one of his/her team, to come and have a photograph taken.

You should not be worried or concerned as this is quite normal and is routine procedure.

Generally, this is required as the consultant needs to have a before and after photograph, so that there is a record of your condition at a particular stage of treatment.

We also take photographs for solicitors of injuries resulting from accidents.

Will it take long?

The length of required time to take your photographs will depend on your condition.

What will happen while I am here?

The photographer will take you into the photographic studio where they will explain what photographs the doctor needs and how they will be taken.

You will be asked to remove any jewellery or makeup where necessary. You may also be asked to remove articles of clothing depending on what needs to be photographed. We try to keep this to a minimum, but it is important for your clinical condition to be recorded as

accurately as possible whilst minimising areas of distraction, such as clothes or jewellery.

If you are required to remove your clothing, we will try our best to ensure a photographer of the same gender takes the photographs. Once completed, the photographs will go into your electronic medical records ready for your next visit.

If images are particularly sensitive, you will be offered different options if the same gender photographer is not available. This will include use of a chaperone or re-booking your appointment at another time.

What is a Clinical Photographer?

Clinical Photographers are degree-qualified photographers who specialise in medicine and have therefore completed further training over and above their initial qualification.

They are required to learn anatomy and physiology, clinical terminology and the different photographic and lighting techniques required for accurately recording clinical conditions.

All Clinical Photographers are registered with the AHCS (Academy for Healthcare Science).

Do I need to give permission for photographs?

Yes

We require your written consent to take any photographs. As with any treatment or procedure performed on you, your doctor should discuss this with you and ask for your permission first and then request that you sign the clinical photography request form, once it has been explained.

The consultant should have explained exactly what the photographs will be used for and who is likely to see them.

There are three levels of consent which limits the usage of each image (see consent form for details).

You may withdraw your consent at any time by contacting the Medical Illustration department, so that they may not be used or viewed in the future. However photographs that have been previously authorised for publication may not be able to be withdrawn as they are already within the public domain.

Can I have copies of the photographs?

Yes

Make your request in writing to:

Medical Records Department, Access to Health Records, Units 5&6 Selly Oak Industrial Estate, Elliott Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham, B29 6RL.

You will need to include your name and date of birth.

Further details can be obtained by telephone on **0121 371 8611** or extension numbers: **8612 / 8613 / 8614**

Feedback

We hope that your visit has been a positive one, and welcome any comments or suggestions that may improve our service to you in the future. You can approach our receptionist or if you prefer you can contact the departmental manager at the following:

Medical Illustration Services Manager,

Department of Medical Illustration, Queen Elizabeth Hospital

Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2GW, Tel: **0121 371 6499**

Email: **jane.tovey@uhb.nhs.uk** or **clinicalphotography@uhb.nhs.uk**

Clinical Photography, Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham

Level 0, Mindelsohn Way, Edgbaston

Birmingham, B15 2GW

Telephone: 0121 371 2460 / Internal: 12460

www.uhb.nhs.uk/clinical-photography.htm
