

Queen Elizabeth Thyrotoxicosis Service (QuETS)

Welcome to the Queen Elizabeth Thyrotoxicosis Service, otherwise known as QuETS.

What is QuETS?

QuETS is a nurse-led remote follow-up clinic for patients with thyrotoxicosis (an overactive thyroid gland). This clinic enables the treatment of your thyroid condition to be carefully monitored through regular blood testing while reducing the number of face-to-face clinic appointments. Face-to-face clinic and virtual (telephone/video) clinic review appointments will still be part of your routine care.

Who is eligible for QuETS?

Patients who have been referred to the Thyroid Clinic at Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham with a diagnosis of thyrotoxicosis. These patients are receiving either a course of anti-thyroid drugs or have finished the course of treatment and are being monitored or awaiting surgery or radioactive iodine treatment.

How does QuETS work?

A blood test will be arranged by the thyroid specialist nurse regularly (see arranging blood tests section below) after initial review in the Consultant Clinic.

A letter will be sent by the thyroid specialist nurse advising you and your GP about the blood test result and will include the following information:

- a) The treatment that we currently think you are on, if any
- b) Whether you need to start, stop, or change your treatment based on the blood test result
- c) When the next blood test is due
- d) Whether you need a face-to-face clinic appointment

Arranging blood tests

We will arrange blood test at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham through the Phlebotomy Clinic Service. Alternatively, you can attend the walk-in service in Area 1 OPD every Tuesdays to Saturdays between the hours of 08:30am and 16:00pm. If your GP sends blood tests to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham, you may have the option to have a blood test at your GP surgery, if your GP is happy to do so. You will need to organise this yourself as we cannot request this in your behalf.

Important information:

If you develop a sore throat, sudden chill, temperature, fast heart rate, or any signs of infection whilst taking an anti-thyroid drug (carbimazole or propylthiouracil), please follow the following steps:

1. Stop your anti-thyroid medication.
2. Organise a same day urgent full blood count check either with your GP or Endocrine team.
3. Do not start taking your anti-thyroid medication again until you have received our advice.

Contact us:

Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham

Email (preferred method): endocrinenursesQEHB@uhb.nhs.uk

Phone: 0121 371 6947 (we will aim to return telephone call within 3–5 working days)

Accessibility

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