

Having a Blood Test

An Easy Read leaflet explaining what happens when you have a blood test at Salisbury District Hospital



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Looking at blood gives doctors a lot of information.

If **you are not well**, your doctor **will ask you to have a blood test**.

The **doctor will give you a form** to take to the hospital.

Someone can go with you.

Give the form to the receptionist in Pathology who will check your name, address and date of birth.

You may **have to wait** in the busy waiting room until your name is called out.

When it is your turn, **you will be asked to go into a small room.**

You **will need to take your coat off** and **pull your sleeve up**. You can sit or lie down.

A tourniquet (like a large rubber band) is **tied around above your elbow** to make it easier to take the blood and the area is cleaned.



The person who takes the blood uses a sharp needle.

This hurts a bit but not for long.

Different tubes are used to collect the blood.

A small piece of **cotton wool is used to stop the bleeding** while you bend your arm for a few minutes.

Then a plaster is put on.

You can **take the plaster off when you get home.**

Don't worry if there is a bruise, it will go away.

The results may take a while to get back to your doctor.



You can **phone your doctor** or **make an appointment to see your doctor.**

Once your doctor has the results, **you can talk about any treatment** you may need.