

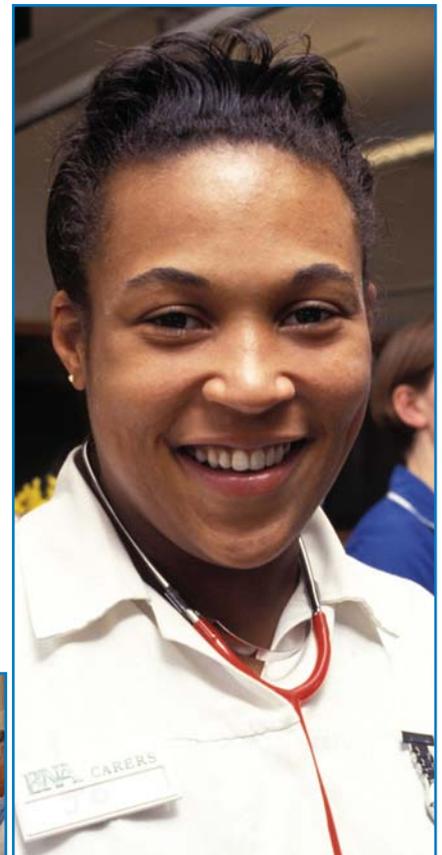
# Going to hospital?



## You choose where to go

Most patients can choose from at least four hospitals - as long as they meet your health needs

Your doctor will talk to you about what your choices are



## Helping you choose

There is information to help you choose. See the **Choosing Your Hospital** booklet.

Also you can:



Talk to your **doctor**. You can get in touch with your **local patient support services**. Ask your surgery for contact details.



Write to: .....



Phone: .....



Go to the **website** at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

# Choosing your hospital

## ■ How do I decide?

You may want to choose a hospital you **know**, or choose the **nearest** hospital to be close to family or friends. Your doctor, friends, family and other people can help you choose.



## ■ Can I choose the hospital that will treat me most quickly?

Yes. You could go to a hospital further away if they could treat you **more quickly**.



## ■ Can I choose the hospital for other reasons?

Yes. **Other things** might be important to you - like how clean a hospital is or what sort of treatment they are best at. It is important that the hospital can meet your health needs.



# More about choice

## ■ Do I have to choose straight away?

No. You can take away information about hospitals and decide **later** if you like.



## ■ Is there a choice of hospital for all treatment?

No. You have a choice of hospital for most, but not all treatments. Your doctor will tell you if you can choose and will tell you what your choices are.



## ■ Can I get help to travel to the hospital?

You **may** get help or have your travel costs paid but this depends on what your health needs are or if you are on benefits.



## ■ Do I have to choose?

No. Your doctor can choose for you. Your family, friends, advocate or support worker can also help you choose.

