

## Local Private Hospitals

The main providers of private healthcare locally are:

Spire Dunedin  
16 Bath Road  
Reading RG1 6NB  
Tel: 0118 9117287

<https://www.spirehealthcare.com/spire-dunedin-hospital>

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Circle Reading  
100 Drake Way  
Reading RG2 0NE  
Tel: 0118 9226888

<Http://www.circlehealth.co.uk/locations/reading>

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The Berkshire Independent Hospital  
(Ramsay Health)  
Swallows Croft  
Wensley Road  
Reading RG1 6UZ  
Tel: 0118 9028000



Theale Medical Centre

Englefield Road  
Theale  
Berkshire  
RG1 58AS

Phone: 0118 9303081  
E-mail: [rccg.tmc@nhs.net](mailto:rccg.tmc@nhs.net)  
Web: [www.thealemedicalcentre.com](http://www.thealemedicalcentre.com)



*Private Referrals*

A patient guide for  
private healthcare  
referrals



August 2019

## Private Healthcare Referrals

With the increasing demands on the NHS many people are using private healthcare in order to be seen more quickly or at a place/time that is more convenient to them.

There is no charge for referring you to see a private healthcare practitioner.

There are two types of private healthcare.

- Self-funding
- Insured

### Self-Funding

This is when all the appointments, tests and any treatments, medicines or appliances are paid for by the patient.

In this case the patient can choose who and where they want to be seen. Before seeing the GP it is a good idea to have done some research about who you might possibly want to go and see and the costs involved. Although the GP may be able to suggest a consultant or practitioner the ultimate decision is up to the patient.

### Insured

When you are insured your provider will pay for some or all of your treatment. This varies between providers.

Not all insurance companies cover all consultants at all hospitals so, if possible, before you see the GP it will be worth checking with your insurance provider to see who they cover and at which hospital.

If you are unsure as to what type of specialist you need to see, then once you have seen the GP and discussed this, you can check with your insurance company and contact us so we can send the referral letter.

It does take about a week to dictate, type up and send the referral letter so please be aware of this when booking your appointment. **If you inform you're GP or the practice secretary who you would like to see as the referral won't be sent until we have this information.** Most consultants will not allow you to book an appointment until they are in receipt of a referral

We hope this guide has helped and maybe clarified how the referral system for private insurance works. If you have any further queries, then please feel free to ring the secretary on 0118 9303081 and ask to be put through to her.