

**Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland**

**Community Hernia Assessment and Treatment Service (CHATS)**

A new county wide specialist community hernia service will be available for patients registered with a GP practice in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September.

Previously patients diagnosed with a hernia would be sent to one of Leicester's hospitals for treatment. Now patients will be referred by their GP to one of a number of clinics in the community which have been set up in local GP practices.

This means patients no longer need to travel to a large hospital and in the majority of cases will receive the care and treatment they need closer to home.

At the appointment patients will be seen by a Consultant Surgeon who will discuss all treatment options available, including surgery if appropriate.

You will be sent a detailed patient information leaflet with your initial appointment letter.

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