

The ROYAL MARSDEN

NHS Foundation Trust

Having a clinical photograph taken

Breast and Plastic Surgery Units

Patient Information



NHS

Introduction

You have been asked to have a series of clinical photographs taken to assist your treatment. These photographs will be used by consultants, doctors and breast care nurses to discuss surgical options and to monitor the outcome of your surgery. They are an essential part of your healthcare record and in allowing us to take these views, you will be helping doctors discuss your case. If you do not wish to have photographs taken, please discuss this with your key worker.

Oncoplastic breast surgery

If you are having oncoplastic breast surgery, in particular breast reconstruction, the photographs will allow us to provide the best possible advice and care.

This leaflet illustrates the views most likely to be taken.

We need your permission (consent) to allow us to take photographs of you. If you have not already done so, a doctor or breast care nurse will ask for your verbal consent to have photographs taken, this will be documented on the photography order in your digital health record. For more information on consent, please read *What about the consenting process?* on page 4.

Clinical photographs are taken by our professional and highly experienced Medical Photographers in the Medical Photography Studio. Your face will never be included in the photographs. The photographs may include the following areas:

Your front

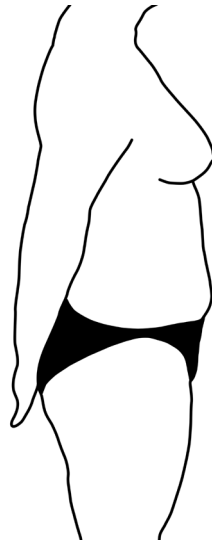
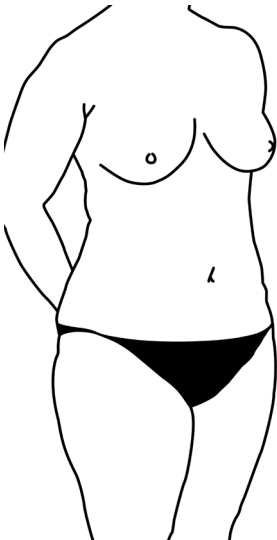
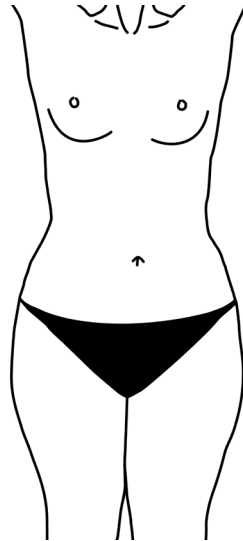
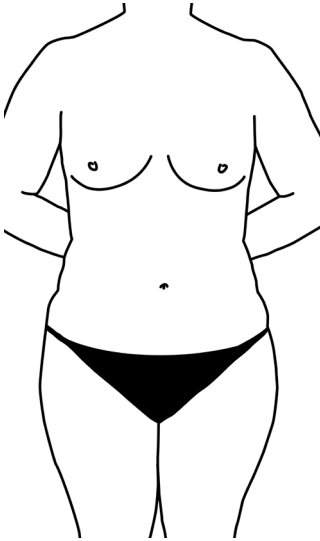
From lower neck to knees including breasts, abdomen and inner thighs.

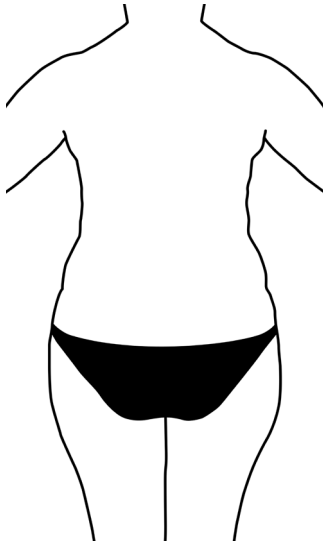
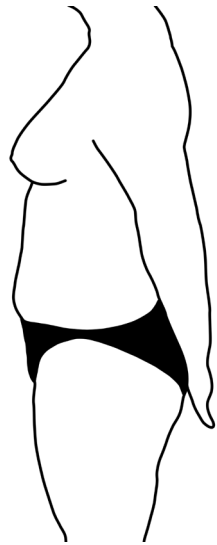
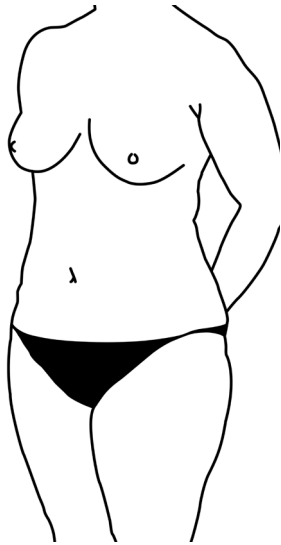
Your back

From lower neck to knees including buttocks and inner thighs.

Views of pictures to be taken

There are seven standard views though not all of them may be requested and occasionally the doctor may ask for additional views.





What happens when I get to the Medical Photography Department?

A chaperone may accompany you during the photography session – this could either be a nurse or healthcare assistant or you could bring a friend or relative. If you would like a member of staff to act as a chaperone please let us know.

If you have a translator with you in the clinic, they should come with you to Medical Photography.

If your thighs and buttocks are to be included in the photographs we will ask you to undress as shown in the drawings. Otherwise you will only need to undress to the waist; we will provide a light dressing gown for you to wear.

The photographs will be kept in your digital health record.

What about the consenting process?

The same consent and confidentiality safeguards that relate to all areas of medical care apply to medical photography. This means we will ask your permission to have photographs taken; both to record your condition and for use in the planning and discussion of your treatment.

We may ask you to give additional written consent for your photographs to be used for research or teaching within The Royal Marsden or beyond The Royal Marsden, for example in national and international lectures or research. However, you can limit the use of the photographs to the purpose(s) specified by you.

We will ask you to sign the hospital's photography consent form for record, research, teaching and publication, and indicate whether you agree to the photographs being used for teaching or research by writing your initials next to the appropriate box. The photographs will remain the property of The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust.

We realise that you may find the medical photography stressful and we try to keep this to a minimum. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

If, at any time, you feel you do not wish to be photographed, please say so immediately.

References

This booklet is evidence based wherever the appropriate evidence is available.

Details of the references used in writing this booklet are available on request from:

The Royal Marsden Help Centre

Telephone: Chelsea 020 7811 8438 / 020 7808 2083

Sutton 020 8661 3759 / 3951

Email: patientcentre@rmh.nhs.uk

No conflicts of interest were declared in the production of this booklet.

Should you require information in an alternative format, please contact The Royal Marsden Help Centre.

The patient information service is generously supported by The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity.

royalmarsden.org

Registered Charity No.1095197



Revised February 2024. Planned review February 2027
© The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust BR-1131-05



Radiotherapy and
Chemotherapy Services
F538021 & F538022

