Travelling in Edinburgh

- Buses into Edinburgh city centre depart from the Western General Hospital regularly.

- Some buses leave from the Porterfield Road entrance, others depart from Crewe Road.

- Lothian Buses charge £1.50 for a single fare (a day saver ticket costs £3.50 and entitles you to unlimited travel on them except Airlink, Night buses and tours).
Other options of travelling to the Western General Hospital

Using your own car
- Map and directions to the Western General Hospital are available from the Cancer Information and Support Centre (CISC).
- Parking is free in the WGH but places are limited (allow plenty of time to park prior to your appointment).

Train from Lockerbie to Edinburgh
- Timetable available from the CISC or
- Phone National Rail Enquiries on 08457 484950

Bus from Dumfries
- Timetable available from CISC or
- Phone Traveline on 0871 200 2233
It is important that you telephone Catherine, (oncology secretary at DGRI) on 01387 241391 to tell her whether you do or do not intend to travel on the minibus on the Friday and/or the Monday (and whether you will require the Order of St John ongoing transport to the west of the region).

The oncology secretary needs to have this information to book your seat no later than noon on the Thursday prior to the day of travel.

Flyers to this effect are placed in all bedrooms in Pentland Lodge.

For those patients staying in a ward, then it is the duty of the ward clerk/ess to telephone the oncology secretary.
Travelling to the Western General Hospital for an Outpatient appointment

Hospital transport is only provided for patients who need support, due to their medical or mobility needs.

If this is the case;

It is **your responsibility** to phone the Scottish Ambulance Service booking line on **0300 123 1236** and arrange transport for a clinic appointment (an ambulance or car will pick you up from home).

Travelling to and from the Western General Hospital for Radiotherapy/Chemotherapy treatment

If hospital transport is required for your admission date, please phone Scottish Ambulance Service booking line on **0300 123 1236** to make arrangements stating it is for admission for radiotherapy or chemotherapy.

You will be picked up from your home (Transport is paid for by NHS Dumfries and Galloway).

Once treatment is underway you may be allowed home on weekend pass (home on a Friday).

A courtesy minibus is provided for this purpose.

The minibus transport is available to and from Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary (DGRI) and the Edinburgh Cancer Centre, Western General Hospital.

The vehicle leaves reception, Edinburgh Cancer Centre on a **Friday between 12 noon and 12.30pm**.

Please therefore make sure that **your treatment time on Friday is before 12 noon**.

The minibus arrives at the main entrance of **DGRI between 3 and 3.30pm**.

For patients who stay in the west of the region, the Order of St John (a voluntary service) will pick up at the main entrance of DGRI dropping off at Castle Douglas Hospital, Newton Stewart Hospital and the Galloway Community hospital, Stranraer.

On Monday mornings, the minibus makes the return journey to Edinburgh, departing at the main entrance of **DGRI at 9.15am**.

Those patients from the west of the region will be picked up on Monday mornings by the Order of St John and brought to Dumfries to meet up with the minibus to continue their journey to Edinburgh.

**NB** It would be helpful if luggage is kept to a minimum as space is limited.