

How Can a Community Hospital Help You?

What is a Community Hospital?

A community hospital deals with everybody as an out patient.

The main aim of a community hospital is to provide as many services as local people need as close to their homes as possible; so they don't have to visit larger, less personal Acute Trusts or General Hospitals.

To find out if you have a local community hospital go to

<http://www.nhs.uk/ServiceDirectories/Pages/PrimaryCareTrustListing.aspx>

then find your Primary Care Trust and click on **Sites and Services** (normally on left hand side of **Home** page),

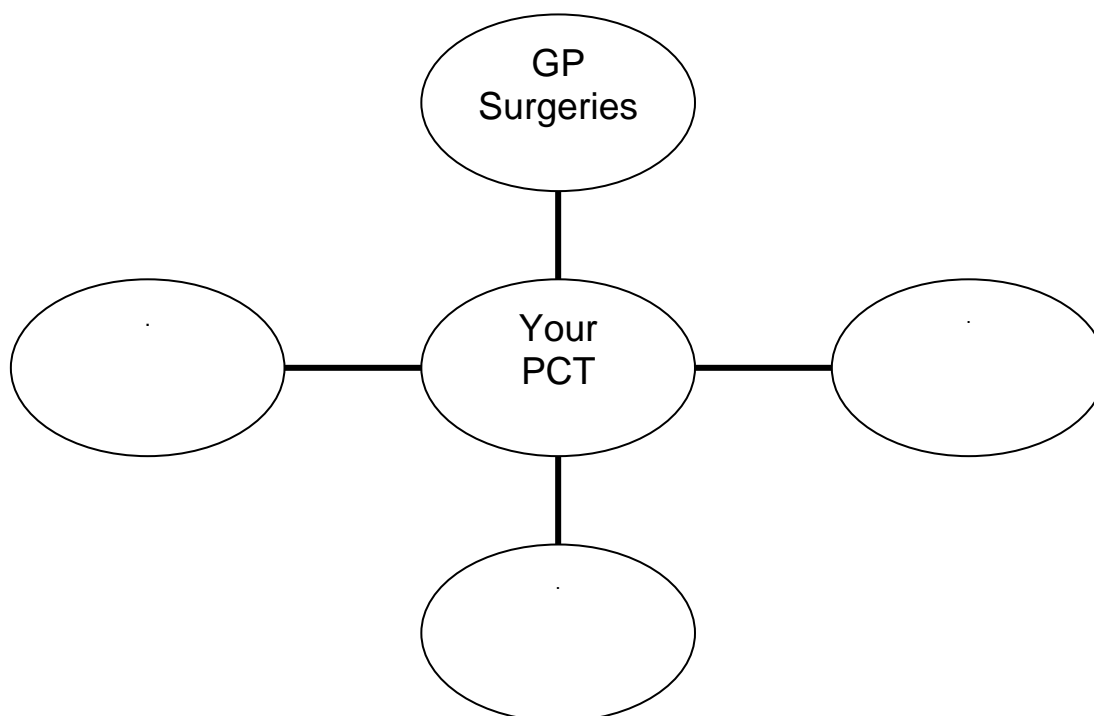
Where can I find out more about my local Community Hospital?

All the information you need is available online at your local PCT website.

Most PCTs also produce a guide to local health services in booklet form. These booklets are generally available from your GP surgery or Health Centre or from your local library.

Activities

- Which organisations make up a PCT?



- **Make a note of the name and address of your:**

- GP Surgery
- Health Centre
- Pharmacy (chemist)
- Community Hospital

There are details of GP surgeries on your PCT website:

- on the *Home* page click on *Services*
- click on *Find a GP*
- Enter your home postcode then click on *search*

- **Compare your notes with others in your class**

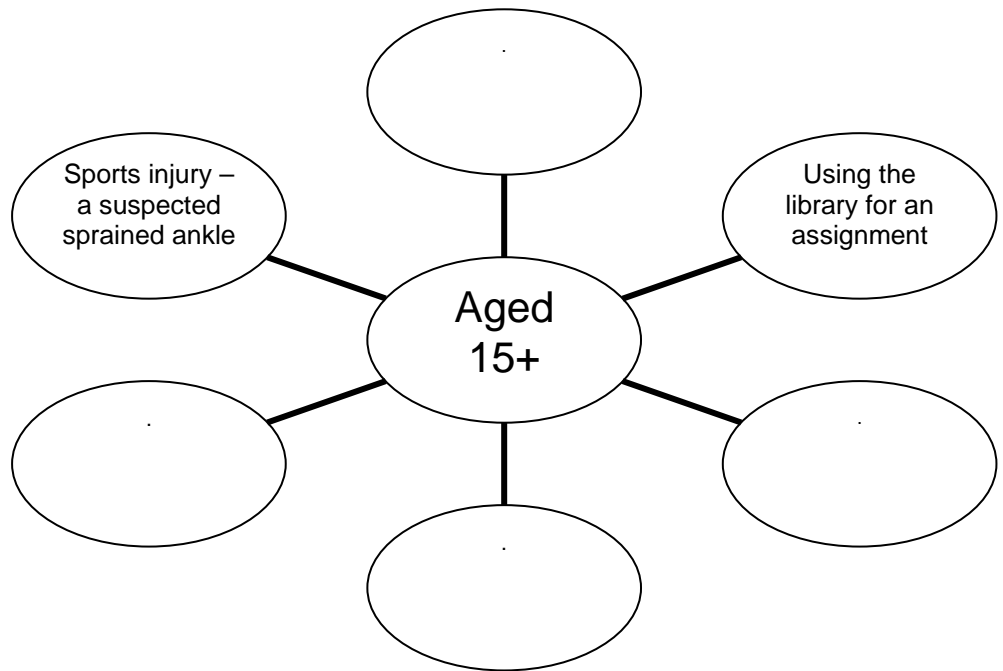
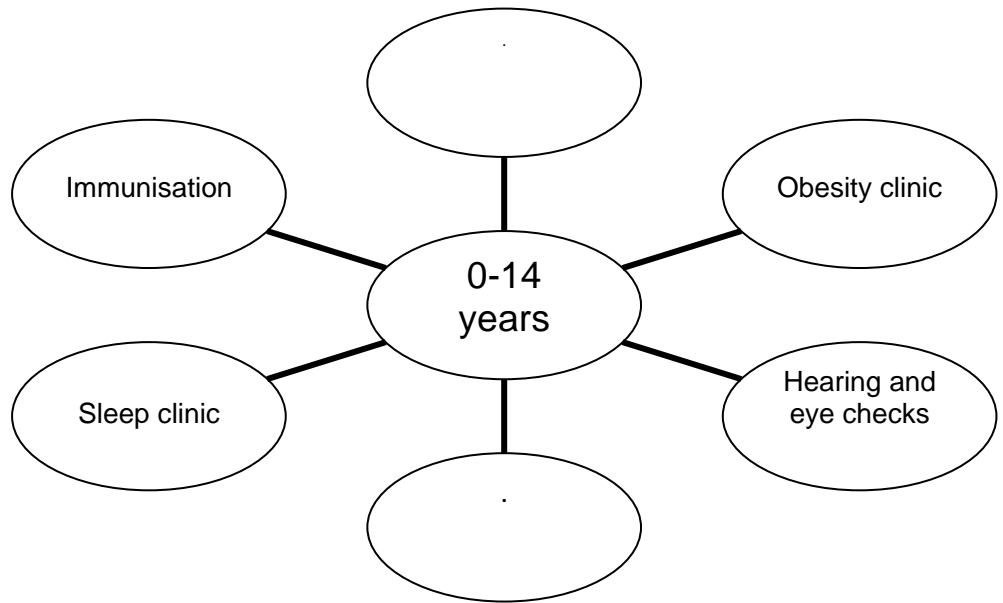
Do many of you share the same Health Centre or GP surgery?
Does anybody use the Community Hospital?

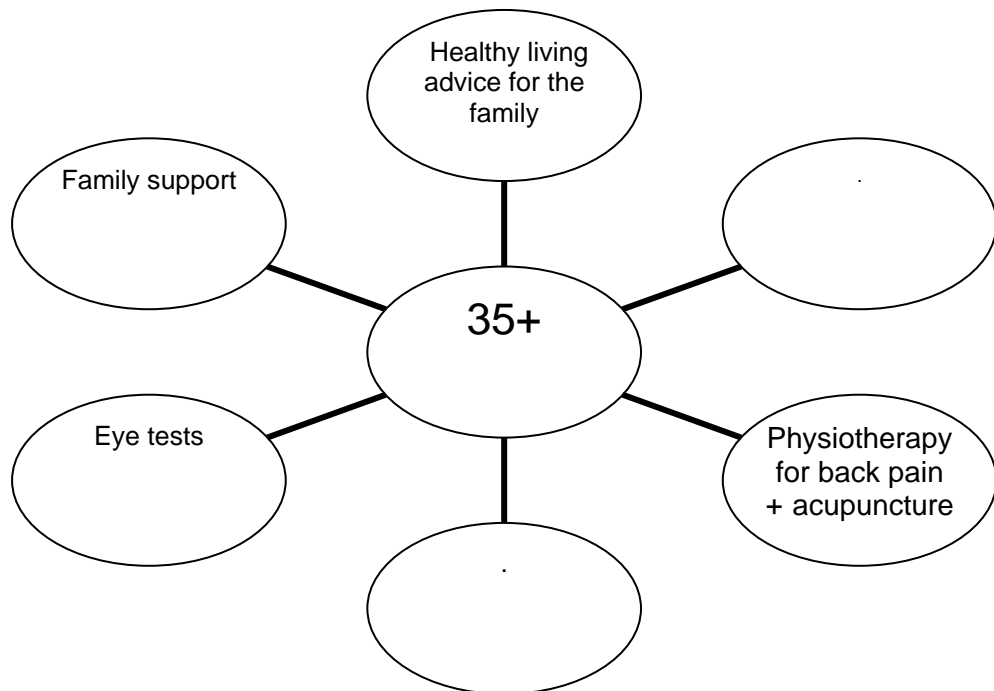
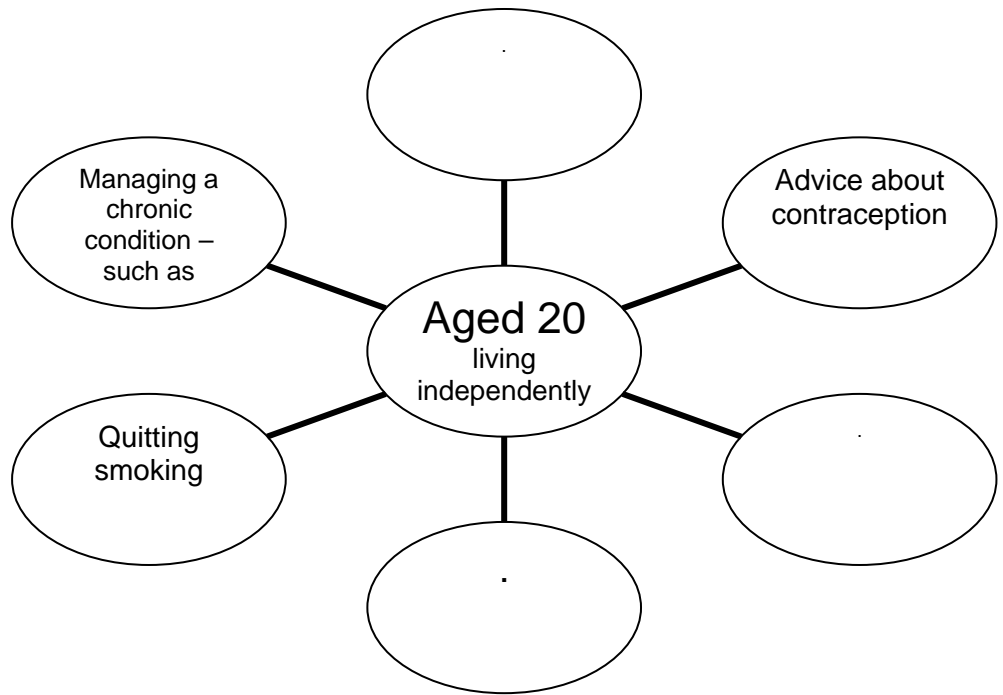
- **Ask around family and friends** and find out who has visited their local Community Hospital, and, if they don't mind telling you, why they were there.

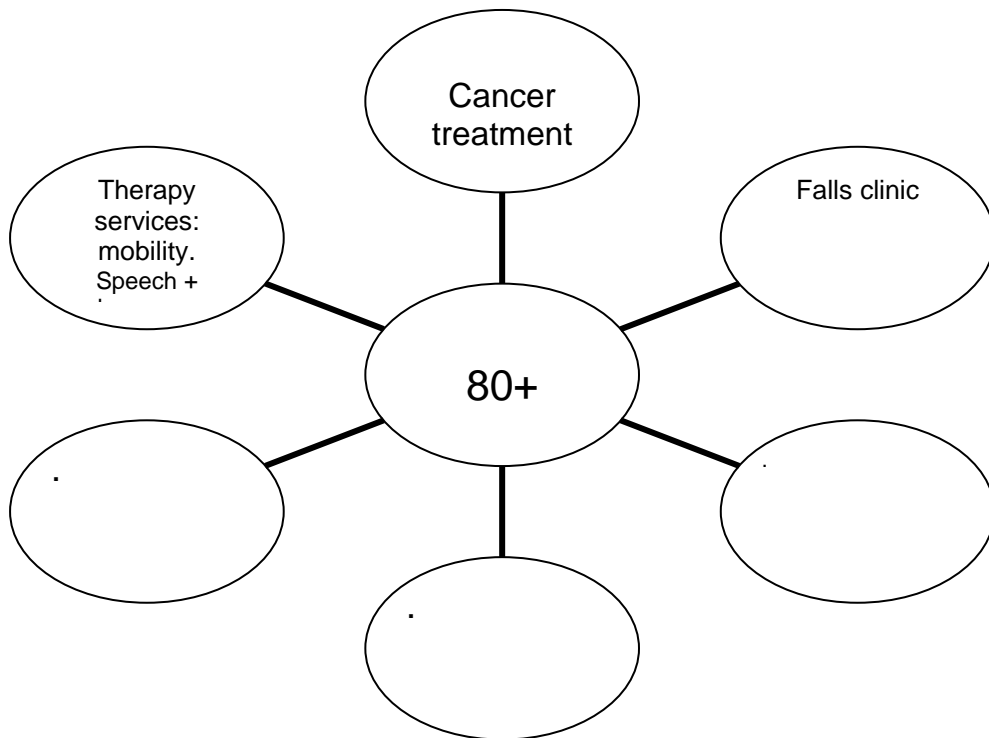
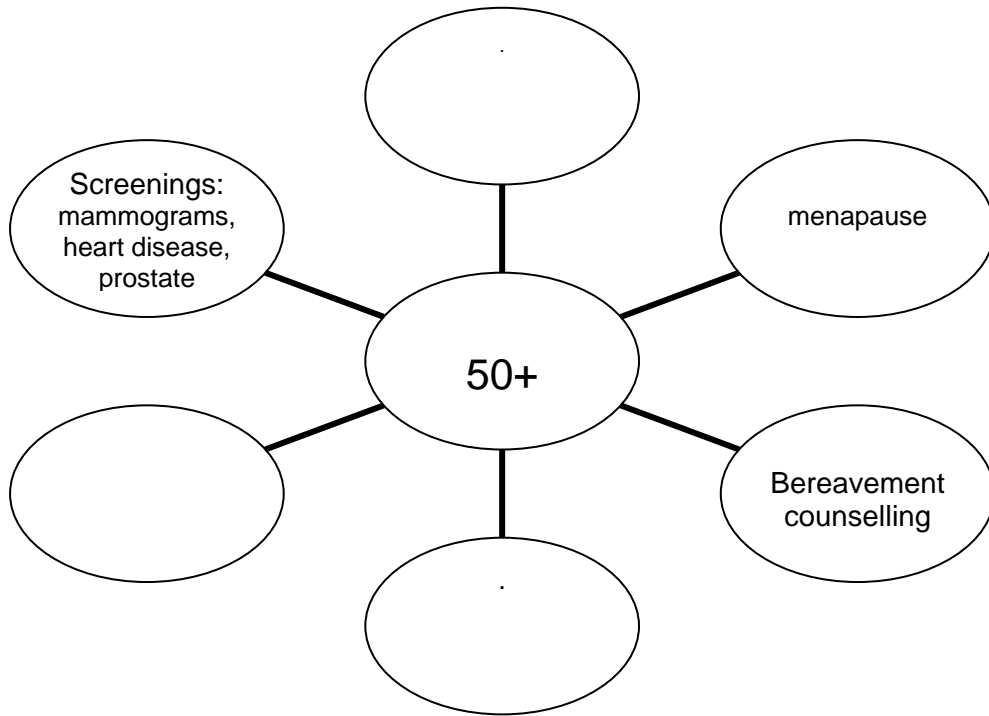
In the bubbles below are some of the reasons different people, at different ages, could have for visiting a Community Hospital. Of course these are only general examples – anybody at any age may need an eye or hearing check-up.

- **Fill the blank bubbles** (or even add more) when you have found out more information.

The aim of this exercise is to help you get an idea of the range of services offered by your Community Hospital – to all age groups.







The best way to find out more information about your Community Hospital and PCT is to go to their website

<http://www.nhs.uk/ServiceDirectories/Pages/PrimaryCareTrustListing.aspx>

➤ **Here are some tasks to help you find your way around
Your PCT website.**

Guidance is on the next page

- 1) Text a friend about how to find out about help to quit smoking.
- 2) Find the GP surgery nearest to where you live.
- 3) Note down the way you can use a website to find out the meaning of all the new names and terms you are coming across now you are doing a healthcare course. Keep it in your file for reference.

Do the same for unfamiliar acronyms.

- 4) Find your way to the Child Health Service, then find out more about childhood immunisation, so you can prepare a set of arguments for and against the MMR vaccine.
- 5) Find out how to get help for an older person who need help changing their light bulbs. (No guidelines for this one!)

➤ **Now, using your PCT website, complete the following assignment:**

You have some new neighbours who do not know the area at all. To welcome them and to be neighbourly, prepare a sheet or two of A4 with all the key information they will need about their local PCT.

Guidance for PCT website tasks

- 1) Go to <http://www.nhs.uk/ServiceDirectories/Pages/PrimaryCareTrustListing.aspx>
 - Click on your PCT website and find the home page
 - read and investigate the references to *Smoking*

- 2) Go to <http://www.nhs.uk/ServiceDirectories/Pages/PrimaryCareTrustListing.aspx>
 - Click on your PCT website and find the home page
 - click on *Services*
 - click on *Find a GP*
 - Enter your home postcode then click on *search*

- 3) Google Barnet PCT
 - click on *Welcome to the official Barnet Primary Care Trust website*
 - you have found the *Home* page
 - click on *Support and Advice*
 - click on *Jargon or Acronym buster*
 - both sections are organised alphabetically
 - e.g. in *Jargon buster*, click on C and scroll down to Chlamydia
 - e.g. in *Acronym buster*, click on C and scroll down to CAMHS

- 4) Google Barnet PCT
 - click on *Welcome to the official Barnet Primary Care Trust website*
 - you have found the *Home* page
 - click on *Sites and Services*
 - click on *A-Z of Services*
 - use drop down menu
 - click on *Child Health Service*
 - to find out more about childhood immunisation, click on '*Childhood Immunisation*' in the right hand menu