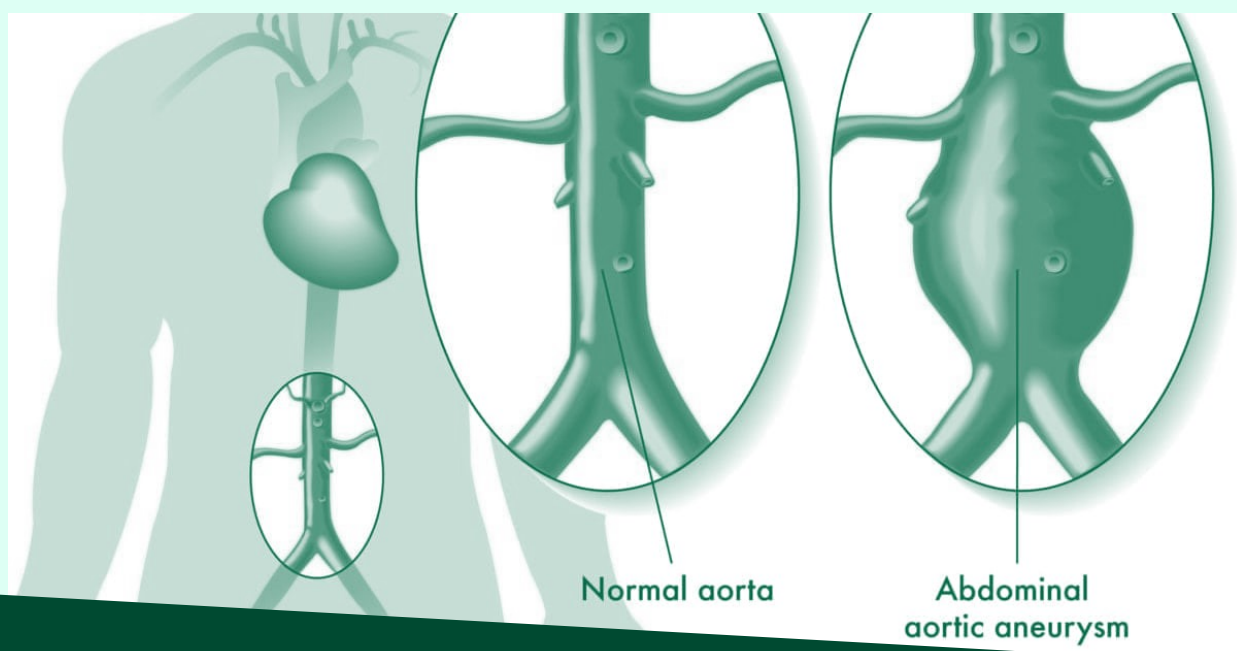


Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) Screening

The abdominal aorta supplies oxygen-rich blood that travels to the organs and tissues of your abdomen and lower extremities. It's the largest artery in the body and is typically 2 cm wide, about the width of a garden hose.

There are several risk factors for AAA, including:

- ⇒ older age
- ⇒ being assigned male at birth
- ⇒ white race
- ⇒ smoking
- ⇒ having one or more of the following:
 - ◆ a family history of AAA
 - ◆ atherosclerosis
 - ◆ high blood pressure
 - ◆ high cholesterol
 - ◆ certain genetic conditions such as Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome and Marfan Syndrome



An AAA is when part of the wall of your abdominal aorta weakens and bulges out. It's diagnosed when the width of your abdominal aorta becomes at least **50% larger than normal**, generally 3 cm or larger.

An AAA is diagnosed using imaging tests. Typically, the first test used is ultrasound. Other imaging tests that may be used during diagnosis include CT scans, MRI scans, and echocardiograms.

Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening is offered to all people assigned male at birth in the year they turn 65.

If you're due to have an abdominal aortic aneurysm screen, you'll receive an invite letter in the post, it's important you don't ignore it.

If you missed your previous appointment or are unsure if you are due a screening, please contact 28000 and we will book you an appointment if you're due.



Contact the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital on **28000**.