



Colonic Stent Insertion – Discharge Information

Following your Colonic stent insertion you may feel a little light headed, but this should pass once you have rested and had a drink.

As you have received a sedative injection or general anaesthetic (GA) to help you tolerate the procedure, it is most important that you follow the instructions given in this leaflet.

- ☐ Rest quietly for the remainder of the day, with someone to look after you for 24 hours as you may still be affected by the sedative drugs/general anaesthetic.
- ☐ It is advisable to have the following day off work, but in any event for the next 24 hours following sedation DO NOT:
 - Drive a car
 - Drink alcohol
 - Take sleeping tablets
 - Operate machinery or electrical items
 - Sign any legally binding documents
 - Work at heights (including climbing ladders or onto chairs)
- ☐ Because the sedation/general anaesthetic may affect your memory you are unlikely to remember what has been said to you. In view of this, the findings will be forwarded to your GP or to the doctor who referred you for the test.
- ☐ In order to visualise the bowel properly, it was necessary to inflate it with air. This may give you some wind type pain. If this discomfort does not settle in the next few hours, becomes more severe or is accompanied by bleeding, please contact the unit on the numbers below for advice.
- ☐ After this procedure you may experience:
 - Loose stools
 - Frequent small bowel actions
 - A lack of control of your bowels that may mark your underwear
 - A sore bottom
 - Bleeding through the back passage.

In most people this improves with time. However if this interferes with any of your activities, please do not hesitate to contact your specialist nurse.

- ☐ If you develop pain that is severe, this may indicate obstruction, perforation or stent migration. If this is the case, you should go straight to A & E taking this letter with you.

Information for Patients

- ❑ **Re-obstruction** - This can be caused by over growth of the tumour, through the stent, blocking the bowel. If this occurs, you may experience symptoms of obstruction (your bowels may stop working, your abdomen may become bloated and you might start vomiting) or abdominal discomfort and should contact your colorectal nurse or consultant surgeon. This may require insertion of an additional stent.

Most people will not experience any serious complications from this intervention. Your consultant surgeon will discuss these risks with you.

Please note:

As with any test, the results given to you today cannot be guaranteed to be totally accurate, although the endoscopist performing the test has taken great care in reporting what he or she has seen. Any specimens that were taken will need to be reported on by the laboratory, which takes 4 – 6 weeks.

If you have had biopsies (samples) taken, the results will be sent to your GP/Referring consultant and a letter will be sent to you directly. If you have not received your biopsy results within 8 weeks, please call the department that you had your test carried out who can look into this for you.

Endoscopy Contact Numbers:

Solihull Endoscopy Unit

Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 5.30 pm – Excluding Bank holidays 0121 424 5394

An answer phone is available for you to leave your name, telephone number and message. We will return your call.

Heartlands Endoscopy Unit

Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 5.30 pm – Excluding Bank holidays 0121 424 0438

Good Hope Hospital – Scoping Suite Treatment Centre

Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 5.30 pm – Excluding Bank holidays 0121 424 9506

Queen Elizabeth Hospital Endoscopy Unit

Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 5.30 pm – Excluding Bank holidays 0121 371 3833

An answer phone is available for you to leave your name, telephone number and message. We will return your call.

Bowel Cancer Screening Patients

Monday to Friday 8 am to 5.30 pm 0121 424 9174

Or contact your screening nurse directly.

If your call is out of these hours and you require urgent medical advice, you can contact one of the following:

- **Speak to an Endoscopy Nurse directly – phone 0121 424 2000 and ask to be put through to the Endoscopy Nurse on call**
- **Or dial 111 non-emergency NHS service**

PATIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY

Your Feedback is important to us. Please use the QR code below to complete our patient feedback survey, and let us know how we can improve our services for you.



If you require this information in another format, such as a different language, large print, braille or audio version please ask a member of staff or email interpreting.service@uhb.nhs.uk.