



Paracentesis Discharge Advice

Today you have had a procedure to remove excess fluid from your abdomen (belly), called a paracentesis.

You will be given some dressings to be placed over the area which should remain in place for 48 hours, and be kept as dry as possible.

Side effects

The most common side effect after the procedure is a feeling of tiredness and some patients experience a slight increase in their abdominal pain.

If you do have pain after the procedure your doctor can prescribe, or recommend pain medications. Take these exactly as directed.

If you stopped taking other medications before the procedure, ask your doctor when you can start them again.

Take it easy for 24 hours after the procedure and avoid physical activity until your doctor says you can.

Complications/risks

Call your doctor if you notice any of the following after the procedure:

- A fever of 100.4°F (38.0°C) or higher
- Trouble breathing
- Pain that does not go away even after taking pain medication
- Abdominal pain not caused by having the skin punctured
- Bleeding from the puncture site
- More than a small amount of fluid leakage from the puncture site
- Swelling of the abdomen
- Signs of infection at the puncture site. These include increased pain, redness, or swelling, warmth, or foul-smelling drainage.
- Blood in your urine
- Dizziness, light headedness, or fainting

If you experience any of these symptoms we advise that you contact your GP immediately, or the out-of-hours GP service, or go to your nearest A&E department. However, it is rare that any complications arise following this procedure.

Information for Patients

To contact us by telephone:

If you have any problems or questions please use the numbers below to contact us:

Solihull Endoscopy Unit

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

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

Heartlands Endoscopy Unit

Monday to Friday 8:30am to 5.30pm - Excluding Bank holidays 0121 424 0438

Good Hope Hospital - Scoping Suite Treatment Centre

Monday to Friday 8:30am to 5.30pm - 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.

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**
- **your own GP**
- **NHS Direct -Telephone 0845 4647**

Future Appointment:

The date of you next paracentesis is:

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.



Information for Patients

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.