

Patient Information

Department of Urology

Mitomycin C bladder treatment

Your doctor has explained to you that you have a bladder condition called 'non-muscle invasive bladder cancer'. He may have described this condition as being like warts, tumours, or growths in your bladder. These growths may recur and in order to reduce the likelihood of this happening your doctor has prescribed a drug treatment for your bladder. The purpose of this leaflet is to tell you about this treatment.

What treatment am I having?

Your doctor has prescribed a drug called Mitomycin C which is a type of chemotherapy drug and works by interfering with the ability of cancer cells to multiply inside the bladder. Your doctor may also prescribe weekly treatments for six weeks. After a review you may continue on this treatment once monthly for 12 months if needed, as maintenance treatment.

Post-operatively after TURBT, your doctor may prescribe a single dose of Mitomycin to be given within 6 hours of your operation. This is instilled via the catheter and will stay in in your bladder for 1 hour before being drained.

How is the treatment given?

The nurse carrying out your treatment passes a fine tube called a catheter into your bladder. After draining any urine out, the drug is introduced into your bladder through the catheter. The catheter is usually then removed and you are asked to hold the drug in your bladder for one hour.

If no difficulties have been experienced during the first treatment, the nurse may allow you to go home directly after the medication has been put into your bladder for the remainder of the course. If you are allowed to go home, please do not have any drinks until you have held the drug for the prescribed period of time.



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For treatment after surgery the Mitomycin is instilled into your bladder using the catheter that is already in place and treatment will be drained after an hour.

What side effects may I experience?

Because the drug goes directly into your bladder and not into your blood stream, side effects are usually localised to the bladder. You may experience pain or burning when you pass urine, blood in your urine or having to pass urine more frequently. A few people may develop a skin rash. If you are concerned about the effect the treatment is having on you, ring the hospital on the numbers below, inform the ward staff, or contact your GP.

What should I do before each treatment?

For patients attending clinic do not drink any fluids for four hours before your treatment. However you should take your routine medicines with a minimal amount of water. You may have your breakfast and /or lunch. Have a bath or shower before attending the hospital for your treatment.

How should I look after myself afterwards?

For the first six hours after each treatment you should take special precautions when you pass urine. Men should sit down the first time they pass urine to avoid splashing. Wash your hands and genital area with soap and water each time you pass urine. If any urine spills onto your skin, wash with soap and water. Do not use moisturisers. Take special care if you have any open wounds that these do not come into contact with the drug or any contaminated urine. Drink plenty of fluids for the rest of the day following the treatment to flush any remaining drug out of your system. If you are sexually active, the male partner should use a condom during sexual activity for the first forty-eight hours after each treatment. The nurse will give you instructions regarding disposal of the treatment at your appointment.

You should take care to prevent children coming into contact with the drug or with urine contaminated with the drug.

If you are an inpatient the drug will be drained and disposed of by the ward staff, but if any treatment or urine spills onto your skin, wash with soap and water and change any soiled bed linen immediately.

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Follow up:

A further cystoscopy of your bladder will be carried out 6-8 weeks after your course of treatment is complete. You will be notified of this by post in due course. You will need to send a urine sample to the hospital 1-2 weeks prior to the telescopic examination. Your nurse will provide you with a urine bottle.

For inpatients follow up, an appointment will be arranged for you to be seen in clinic.

Useful contact numbers:

If you have any questions or concerns about your diagnosis or treatment and would like to discuss them, please contact:

Sister Lorraine Taylor,

Sister Mandinika Muzondo,

Sister Marguerite Reynolds,

Sister Natalie Probert

Sister Jade Wilcox

Telephone: 024 7696 5149

National Help lines / Cancer Support Groups:

Cancer Information Centre

Main Entrance

University Hospital

Clifford Bridge Road

Coventry

024 7696 6052

www.macmillan.org.uk

Macmillan Cancer Support

0808 808 0000

Offers information and support on all aspects of cancer

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Macmillan Service Coventry

Citizens Advice Bureau

(For cancer patients and carers)

To book an appointment: 024 7625 2050

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format please contact us on 024 7696 5149 and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke free policy

Document History

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