

## Department of Urology

# Cystoscopy and Bladder Biopsy

Your Consultant has explained to you that you are to have an operation called a Cystoscopy and bladder biopsy. Cystoscopy is a telescopic examination of the bladder where a fine fibre optic telescope (cystoscope) is passed through the urethra (water pipe) into the bladder. It is used to diagnose the possible causes of recurrent urinary infections, incontinence, and blood in your urine. It can also check the bladder for stones, ulcers or unusual growths, in which case a biopsy or sample of tissue can be taken for further analysis.

### What does the operation involve?

The operation usually takes place under a general anaesthetic where you will be asleep throughout the surgery; however in some circumstances a local anaesthetic can be used. A telescope will be passed into the urethra (water pipe). The procedure is then done by removing a small amount of bladder tissue for examination under a microscope in the laboratory. Because the operation is performed in this way you will not have any scars or wounds. The removed piece(s) of tissue are very small and only leave a tiny internal wound that will heal quickly. The operation takes approximately 15 - 30 minutes.

### Are there any side effects

As with any type of surgery there are some side effects from a Cystoscopy and Bladder biopsy. The most common of which is a mild burning sensation, increased frequency and occasional bleeding when passing urine. Due to the nature of the procedure there is also a risk of urine infections after this procedure, please contact your doctor, nurse or GP if you suspect you may have an infection.



## Patient Information

### **After the operation**

When you return to the ward following the operation you may experience some mild discomfort which could last up to forty eight hours. Simple pain killing medication can be taken which should control this adequately. You may also notice some blood in your urine; this is usually intermittent and can last for up to 2 weeks after the procedure. However this is usually nothing to worry about and will usually settle, please contact your doctor, nurse or GP if you have any concerns.

You should drink plenty of fluids following the operation.

### **Passing urine**

Most patients usually pass water within a few hours after the operation. However, a few patients do have temporary difficulties and may need to have a catheter inserted to help drain the urine. Occasionally the catheter will be removed again whilst you are in hospital. Alternatively your consultant may decide to let you go home with the catheter in place for a short while, to be removed in clinic at a later date.

### **At home**

When you return home from hospital it is important to take things easy. You should not drive, drink alcohol or handle machinery for 24 hours after the anaesthetic. You may notice that you pass urine more frequently than before, but this will subside as your operation site begins to heal. You will be informed of the results of the biopsy.

### **Potential problems**

If you experience any problems or you develop any of the following symptoms please contact your GP as soon as possible

- Strong smelling cloudy looking urine
- Fever / temperature
- Constant blood and blood clots in your urine which persists for 24-48 hrs making it difficult to urinate.
- Unable to pass urine (urinary retention)
- Severe abdominal pain

## Patient Information

For further information or advice please contact:  
Ward 33 (Urology) 024 7696 5381

Sister Lorraine Taylor,  
Sister Mandinika Muzondo,  
Sister Marguerite Reynolds,  
Sister Natalie Probert  
Sister Jade Wilcox

**Telephone: 024 7696 5149**

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

Department:	Urology
Contact:	024 7696 5149
Updated:	December 2020
Review:	December 2022
Version:	7.1
Reference:	HIC/LFT/103/06