

Renal Department

Removal of a Vascular Catheter (Temporary or Permanent Cuffed Tunnelled Vascular Catheter)

When your Vascular Catheter is no longer required for haemodialysis, the nursing staff will make arrangements for its removal.

You will be given a date and time for the removal of the catheter. This will be on a non dialysis day. The removal of your catheter will take place in the Day Unit on Ward 50 (next to the Haemodialysis Unit)

Medication

If you take Aspirin, Clopidogrel or Warfarin these **may** need to be stopped before your catheter is removed. This decision will be made on an individual basis and will depend on the reason the medication has been prescribed. This should be discussed with your doctor and nursing staff at least one week prior to the appointment.

On the day of removal of either a temporary or permanent catheter, you will be asked to attend the Renal Day Unit on Ward 50. You will be asked to wear a gown so the vascular catheter site is easily accessible. The nurse who looks after you will explain the procedure to you as follows:

If you have a temporary vascular catheter

Your catheter will be removed by one of the members of the nursing team. You will be asked to take a deep breath in and hold it until the catheter is removed (just like holding your breath). The nurse will apply pressure for 5 – 10 minutes to ensure the site is not going to bleed. A dressing will be applied and can be removed after 7 days when healing has taken place.

If you have a cuffed tunnelled permanent catheter

This will be removed by a member of the medical team (a doctor). You will be given a local anaesthetic to numb the area. The procedure should not be painful but you may experience a pulling sensation as the catheter is removed. Following removal, stitches and a dressing will be applied to the area and the nurse will check the site for any bleeding.



Patient Information

You will be asked to stay for up to two hours after the catheter is removed to make sure any bleeding has stopped and that you are fit and well to return home safely.

Follow up care will be carried out by the nurses in the Haemodialysis Unit or the Practice Nurse at your GP surgery.

The Renal Doctors and Nurses will advise you when to recommence your Aspirin, Clopidogrel or Warfarin tablets as necessary. **Please ask the doctors about your prescription if you are unsure.**

If you experience any problems following your catheter removal, please contact Ward 50 Telephone: 024 7696 8259 or the Haemodialysis Unit on 024 7696 7777

If you experience excessive bleeding, apply pressure to the area and dial 999 for an ambulance to bring you into hospital.

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format, please contact 024 7696 7777 and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke free policy

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