

Department of Urology

Transurethral Resection of Bladder Tumour (TURBT)

Your Urology Doctor has explained to you that you are to have an operation called a TURBT (Transurethral Resection of Bladder Tumour). This procedure is to remove an area of suspicious tissue on the lining of the bladder.

Pre-operative assessment.

The Pre-Operative Assessment Service is where patients due to have their operations in the next few days, weeks, or months are screened and your fitness assessed for anaesthesia and surgery.

These investigations may include: an electrocardiogram 'ECG', an X-ray, blood tests, a respiratory function test, an echocardiogram, and a physical examination.

What does the operation involve?

The operation may take place under a general anaesthetic or occasionally a spinal anaesthetic; where you will be awake throughout the surgery. The procedure works by removing the growth(s) in your bladder by scraping away small pieces using heat from an electrical current. A telescope will be passed through the urethra (water pipe) into your bladder to do this. Because the operation is performed inside the bladder you will not have any scars or wounds. Some of the bladder tissue that has been removed will be sent for examination under a microscope in the laboratory. The operation takes approximately 45 minutes and you may need to stay in hospital for a few days.



Patient Information

Are there any side effects?

As with any type of surgery there are some side effects from the TURBT operation. The most common of these are a mild burning sensation, frequency and occasional bleeding when passing urine.

After the operation

When you return to the ward following the operation you may experience some pain or discomfort which could last up to 48 hours. Simple pain killing medication can be taken which should control the pain adequately. You may also notice some blood in your urine. However this is nothing to worry about and will usually settle quite quickly.

A small thin tube (catheter) will be inserted into your bladder at the end of the operation to allow you to drain urine and any blood. This will be removed before you are discharged home.

Sometimes in the 24 hours following your operation you may have a single dose of a chemotherapy drug (Mitomycin), given directly into your bladder through a catheter. Using this type of treatment is thought to reduce the chance of any further tumours returning. Because the chemotherapy drug is administered straight into the bladder it does not have any of the side effects of general chemotherapy that you may have heard of.

At home

When you return home from hospital it is important to take things easy. You may notice that you pass urine more frequently than before and there may be blood in your urine intermittently, but this will subside as your operation site begins to heal. It is important to drink plenty of fluids preferably water, which will make you feel more comfortable. It is advised that you do not do any heavy lifting or strenuous exercise for approximately 2 weeks following the procedure to allow the resected site to heal. You can usually return to work after two weeks.

Follow up

You will be contacted by telephone or be sent an outpatient appointment to discuss the results of your tissue analysis (histology results). If you do not wish to be contacted by telephone with these results please let your key worker know. Any further treatment or investigations required will be discussed at your appointment. If no further treatment is required you will be requested to return to the hospital for further bladder inspections

Patient Information

(cystoscopies) on a regular basis, so that the Consultant can ensure that the growths do not recur.

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
- Blood in your urine which persists for 24-48 hrs making it difficult to urinate.
- No urine drainage
- Severe abdominal pain

For further information please contact

Ward 33 (Urology) 024 7696 5381

Macmillan Clinical Nurse Specialist in Urology:

Lorraine Taylor: 024 7696 5149

Mandinika Muzondo: 024 7696 5149

Margo Reynolds: 024 7696 5149

Natalie Probert: 024 7696 5149

Bleep numbers 4272 and 1345

Or alternatively contact your Consultants Secretary via the hospital switchboard:

Telephone 024 7696 4000

Hospital Information contacts

Cancer Information Centre 024 7696 6052

Main Entrance, opposite reception

Open Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm

Patient Information

Macmillan Services Coventry – Citizens Advice Bureau

(For cancer patients and carers)

Telephone 024 7625 2050 for appointment

National Help lines / Cancer Support Groups:

Cancer Research U.K

Free phone 0808 800 4040 / www.cancerhelp.org.uk

Macmillan Cancer Support

Free phone 0808 808 00 00 / www.macmillan.org.uk

Lines open Monday to Friday: 9.00am - 8.00pm

Offers information and support on all aspects of cancer

Benefits Line Free phone 0800 88 22 00

Lines open: Monday to Friday 8.30am – 6.30pm

Saturday 9.00am -1.00pm

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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