

Who can I contact if I have a problem when I get back home?

If you experience any problems related to your surgery or admission once you have been discharged home, please feel free to contact ward 4A or 4B for advice from the nurse in charge. They will assist you via the telephone, advise you to return to your GP or ask you to make your way to the Emergency Department (ED) at Whiston Hospital, depending upon the nature of your concern.

Ward 4A
0151 430 1420

Ward 4B (Monday to Friday only)
0151 430 1440

Whiston Hospital
Warrington Road,
Prescot, Merseyside, L35 5DR
Telephone: 0151 426 1600

St Helens Hospital
Marshall Cross Road,
St Helens, Merseyside, WA9 3DA
Telephone: 01744 26633

Trial Without Catheter (TWOC)

Frequently Asked Questions

This leaflet can be made available
in alternative languages / formats on request.

如有需要，本传单可提供其他语言/版式
此單張的其他語言/格式版本可按要求提供

Na żądanie ta ulotka może zostać udostępniona
w innych językach/formatach.

What is Trial Without Catheter?

A Trial Without Catheter is when a catheter which has been inserted via the urethra (water pipe) is removed from the bladder for a trial period to determine whether you are able to pass urine spontaneously.

What will happen once the catheter has been removed?

You will normally be encouraged to fill your bladder slowly by drinking sufficient fluid.

This normally entails drinking a glass or cupful of liquid approximately every 45-60 minutes.

Do I have to stay in hospital during this time?

Not necessarily, although by remaining in hospital, this allows us to monitor your condition closely.

If you live locally, you may be able to return home after the catheter has been removed; alternatively, you can leave the clinic but remain within the hospital so that you can return to the clinic at any time.

How long will I have to remain in the hospital?

You should remain until you have passed urine satisfactorily.

This is monitored using a bladder scanner, the scan will be performed by the Specialist Nurse after a variable period of time (usually 3-4 hours) or if you have passed urine twice. If your bladder begins to feel uncomfortable and you are unable to pass urine, a scan may be performed sooner.

What will happen after the scan?

This depends on your ability to pass urine.

If you are able to pass urine well, you will be discharged from the clinic and an appointment may be made to check your progress.

What happens if I cannot pass urine?

If you are unable to pass urine, a new catheter may be inserted or, with your agreement, you may be taught intermittent self-catheterisation.

If you require re-catheterisation, you will be automatically referred back to your Consultant Urologist for further advice.

If self-catheterisation is required, your Specialist Nurse will provide you with everything you need for this and will continue to monitor your progress at subsequent outpatient appointments.

Are there any other important points?

This publication provides input from specialists, the British Association of Urological Surgeons, the Department of Health and evidenced based sources, as a supplement to any advice you may have been given by your GP.

Alternative treatments can be discussed in more detail with your Urologist or Specialist Nurse