

## Useful Telephone Numbers

- ENT Department, Lister Hospital  
Telephone: 01438 314333, Ext. 5113 / 4118
- ENT Admission Office (waiting list)  
Telephone: 01438 286836 or 01438 286835
- ENT Nurse Specialist (Monday to Friday, 8.30am - 6pm)  
Telephone: 01438 314333, bleep 1028  
Mobile: 0778 534 3359 or 0787 639 0290

Useful ENT website: [www.entuk.org](http://www.entuk.org)

### In an emergency:

**Dial 999 and request an ambulance or attend the nearest A&E of the following hospitals unless away from home**

- Lister Hospital A&E (SG1 4AB) ☎ 01438 784732
- New QEII Urgent Care Centre, Welwyn Garden City ☎ 01707 247549
- Luton and Dunstable
- Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow

[www.enhersts-tr.nhs.uk](http://www.enhersts-tr.nhs.uk)

You can request this information in a different format or another language.

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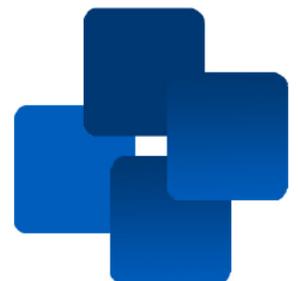
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## Patient Information

### Panendoscopy

### Ear, Nose and Throat Department



## **Why do I need this operation?**

Endoscopy is performed to allow a better view of the inside of the throat and upper oesophagus (swallowing tube-gullet), often to make a diagnosis.

Panendoscopy is a word used to describe a group of operations. These operations are direct laryngoscopy, direct oesophagoscopy and direct pharyngoscopy.

In these operations, the voice box, food pipe and throat are examined respectively.

## **What are the intended benefits of the surgery?**

Panendoscopy may be performed to give a better look at the structures in the throat and to take a biopsy if necessary.

## **How is the surgery performed?**

This operation is carried out under general anaesthetic (whilst asleep). A metal tube is introduced through the mouth and into the throat. The relevant structures are identified and a biopsy is taken if required.

## **What are the potential risks?**

The most common risk of this operation is damage to the teeth.

Owing to the fact that a large metal tube is introduced into the mouth, the teeth are at great risk - this risk is even greater if you have caps or crowns at the front, particularly on the top jaw.

Every effort is made to protect the teeth, including mouth guards. On rare occasions, teeth may need to be purposely removed to gain access to reach difficult parts of the throat.

Another significant complication is perforation; making a small hole in the throat or oesophagus. This is rare, but the consequences are very serious if this occurs.

## **What happens if there is a perforation (hole)?**

This is a very rare complication. If it does happen, a repair of the tissue is possible, but this is a serious operation.

## **What am I to expect after the operation?**

You may need to stay overnight on the ward or may be discharged home on the same day if all is well.

You may experience a sore throat, but this does not usually require any pain relief.

## **How long will I be off work / school?**

Only one or two days off will be required. This depends on what is done during the endoscopy. More surgery in the area will require more recovery time. A fit note (also known as a medical statement/doctor's note) will be provided.