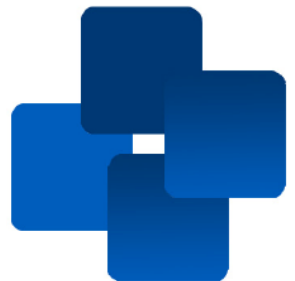


Patient Information

Having a Peritoneal Dialysis Catheter Removed

Renal Department



Introduction

This leaflet is intended to provide you with information regarding the removal of your peritoneal dialysis catheter, also known as a Tenckhoff catheter.

Why is my peritoneal dialysis catheter being removed?

There are many reasons for removing a peritoneal dialysis catheter, these can include:

- Your peritoneal dialysis catheter is no longer needed;
- Your peritoneal dialysis catheter is blocked or has failed for technical reasons;
- An infection of your peritoneal dialysis catheter.

Where is it done?

The peritoneal dialysis catheter removal will usually be carried out at the Lister Hospital in the minor procedures room on 6B. The procedure is usually done under a local anaesthetic and will take approximately 20-30 minutes to perform. Occasionally, it may need to be carried out in theatre under a general anaesthetic.

What preparation will I need?

You will be able to eat and drink as normal before the procedure as the peritoneal catheter is usually removed under a local anaesthetic. However, if a general anaesthetic is required you will be asked to fast for six hours before the removal of the peritoneal catheter. You will be advised of this prior to the procedure.

How is the procedure performed?

Before the catheter is removed you will be asked to change into a hospital gown. You will then be taken into the minor procedure room where you will need to lie flat on the bed or couch.

Once in the minor procedure room you will be connected to a blood pressure machine so that you can be monitored throughout the peritoneal dialysis catheter removal.

Your skin will be cleaned with an antiseptic solution and local anaesthetic injected into the area to make it numb.

Removal of the peritoneal dialysis catheter should not be painful, although you will feel some pressure. This is perfectly normal and does not usually cause significant discomfort to patients. Gentle pressure will be applied over the entry point as the catheter is removed. Two or three stitches are normally put into the skin and a protective dressing applied.

What complications might occur?

Having a peritoneal dialysis catheter removed is considered a safe procedure but, as with any medical treatment, complications can occur:

- The most common complication is bleeding from the small skin wound where the catheter came out. This can be stopped by applying pressure to the area.
- Very rarely a peritoneal dialysis catheter may become embedded into the abdominal lining. This may have to be surgically removed by a surgeon under a general anaesthetic.
- The procedure will be performed using full sterile conditions but there are still risks of the wound site getting infected. Antibiotics may be prescribed for this.

What happens after the procedure?

After the local anaesthetic has worn off you may feel a little discomfort on your abdomen due to slight bruising. You will be offered painkilling medication.

When you go home you will need to keep your dressing clean and dry. The stitches should be removed in 10 days. If you are on dialysis then one of the nurses should be able to remove the stitches when you come to the unit. Otherwise you will need to book an appointment with the practice nurse at your GP surgery.

Contact details

If you have any questions regarding this procedure, the Renal Access CNS is available Monday to Friday, 8am – 4pm and can be contacted on 01438 284624.

A message can be left on the answerphone.

Other useful numbers

Ward 6B, Nephrology (Renal) Ward, Lister Hospital	01438 285063
Advanced Kidney Care Department	01438 285255
Lister Haemodialysis Unit	01438 284152
St Albans Haemodialysis Unit	01727 897588
Chiltern Haemodialysis Unit	01438 288850
Bedford Renal Unit	01438 286750
Harlow Renal Unit	01279 278205

Further information

www.nhs.uk

www.renal.org

www.kidney.org.uk

Date of publication: January 2018
Author: Jeanette Cloran
Reference: PDCathIRemLA Version: 2 (Mar 2023)
Review Date: March 2026
© East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust

www.enhersts-tr.nhs.uk

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