



Surgical removal of CAPD catheter

This information aims to assist you and your family prior to your admission for removal of a CAPD (Tenckhoff) catheter. This will take place on the Adult Day Surgery Unit (Level 3 South Block) at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. If you require further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the nursing staff on the CAPD Unit on 0118 322 8555.

Preparing for the procedure

In the lead up to the procedure you will have been seen for a pre-op general anaesthetic (GA) assessment, where you will have been deemed fit for a GA. You will be given advice at this assessment regarding your medications leading up to CAPD catheter removal (Aspirin, Warfarin, Clopidigril and diabetes medications). Please also refer to the Trust leaflet called [‘Interrupting blood thinning or anti-platelet drugs for a procedure or operation’](#)

Skin swabs will be taken to detect *Staphylococcus aureus*, which is a naturally occurring bacterium that lives on the skin. It is present in approximately 30% of the population; if the swabs are positive you will be prescribed a nasal cream and antibacterial wash for 5 days leading up to catheter insertion.

- A few days before procedure, you will be asked to have the following:
 - Blood tests.
 - Physical assessment by a member of the renal team to check your general health.

On the day of the procedure

- You must not have anything to eat or drink from _____ am.
- You may however take any essential tablets with a very small amount of water up to 6am.
- The nurses will advise you which tablets you can take when you come for your pre-operative assessment.
- On admission to hospital, you will have a cannula (a fine tube) usually inserted into the back of your hand, through which you will be given a dose of antibiotics.

Removing the catheter

The procedure will be carried out under general anaesthetic. This means you will be asleep throughout the procedure and wake up in the recovery room. The Tenckhoff catheter is removed from the peritoneal cavity (abdominal space) by making a small cut (about 5cm) in the middle of your abdomen.

After the procedure, you will return to the ward where your blood pressure and pulse will be taken regularly and the wound and exit site observed. Depending on the operation time, some patients will be discharged six hours post-operatively, usually early evening. Others may require an overnight stay.

Side effects

There may be some temporary bruising and a small amount of bleeding from the wounds.

Wound care and pain relief

You will have two wounds with dissolvable stitches, the exit site and the incision site where the catheter was removed. The wounds will be checked before you leave hospital.

We do not routinely provide painkillers to take home. We would recommend that you make sure you have a supply of *Paracetamol*, which can be taken as directed on the packet. **We generally recommend that any renal patient avoid anti-inflammatory drugs** (e.g. *Brufen*, *Ibuprofen* and *Nurofen*) as this group of drugs can be damaging to remaining kidney function.

Driving

You should not drive for at least two weeks while the wound is still healing. It is advisable to check with your motor insurance before resuming driving.

Getting back to work

Ideally, it is best if you rest for 2-4 days before resuming your usual daily activities. How you feel is very individual and we recognise the fact that some people require more time to recover than others. You are the best judge on how you feel.

If you have further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask the CAPD or ADSU staff.

Contacting us

If you have any problems queries or concerns, please call the **CAPD Unit (Albert Ward) on 0118 322 8555**, Monday to Friday 9.30am-5pm. If we are unable to come to the phone, please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

In an emergency outside these hours, please call **Victoria Ward on 0118 322 8882 / 7476**, where the nurses will be able to advise you.

Adult Day Surgery Unit Tel: 0118 322 7622 (Monday-Friday 7.30am - 8pm).

To find out more about our Trust visit www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk

Please ask if you need this information in another language or format.

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