Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

Having a Suprapubic Catheter

Patient leaflet

If you need this leaflet in a different language or accessible format please speak to a member of staff who can arrange it for you.

اگر به این بروشور به زبان دیگر یا در قالب دسترس‌پذیر نیاز دارید،
لطفاً با یکی از کارکنان صحبت کنید تا آن را برای شما تهیه کند.

Jeśli niniejsza ulotka ma być dostępna w innym języku lub formacie,
proszę skontaktować się z członkiem personelu, który ją dla Państwa przygotuje.

Dacă aveți nevoie de această broșură într-o altă limbă sau într-un format accesibil,
vă rog să discutați cu un membru al personalului să se ocupe
de acest lucru pentru dumneavoastră

如果您需要本传单的其他语言版本或无障碍格式，请联系工作人员为您安排。

إذا احتجت إلى هذه النشرة بلغة أُخرى، أو بتنسيق
يسهل الوصول إليه، يرجى التحدث إلى أحد الموظفين لترتيب ذلك لك.

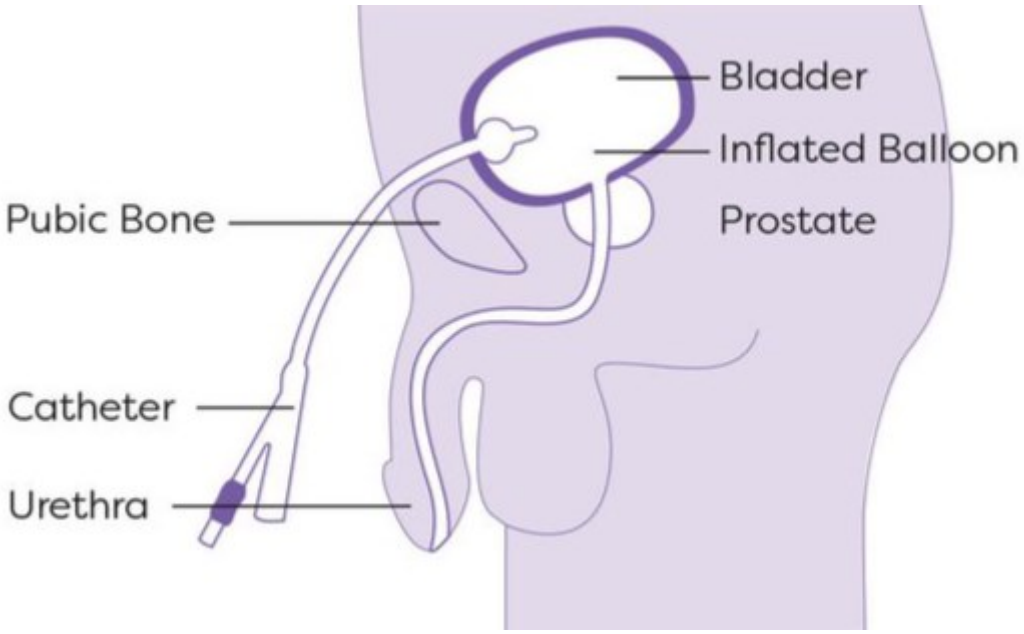
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Introduction

This leaflet tells you about the procedure known a suprapubic catheter. It explains what is involved and what the possible risks are. It is not meant to be a substitute for informed discussion between you and your doctor, but can act as a starting point for such a discussion. Whether you are having the procedure as planned or as an emergency procedure you should have sufficient explanation before you sign the consent form.

What is a Suprapubic Catheter?

A suprapubic catheter is a thin, flexible tube inserted into the bladder through the lower abdomen to drain urine. It is used when a person cannot pass urine naturally or needs long-term bladder drainage. This procedure is performed under imaging guidance (ultrasound and/or X-ray) to ensure accurate placement.



Who will be doing the procedure?

An interventional radiologist will perform the procedure. They will be assisted throughout the procedure by Radiology nurses and radiographers. Due to the similarity of an operating theatre, all staff members will be wearing scrub uniforms. All members of staff will introduce themselves before the start of the procedure.



How do I prepare for the procedure?

You will have some blood tests performed beforehand to check that you do not have an increased risk of bleeding. If you are taking any blood thinning medications, you will be given instructions when to stop these before your procedure.

Where is the procedure performed?

The procedure will take place in the Radiology Department in a special “screening room” designed specially for this type of procedure.



What happens during the procedure?

Suprapubic catheter insertion is a minimally invasive way of draining urine from your bladder. The urine is drained through a small plastic tube, called a catheter. The catheter is placed through the wall of your abdomen (tummy). During the procedure, a tube will be passed through a small cut made in the abdomen (tummy) wall into a full bladder. If you already have a urinary catheter, this will be clamped to allow your bladder to fill. This is performed under local anaesthetic - an injection to numb the skin in that area. The position of the catheter in the bladder is checked using ultrasound guidance. The catheter will be fixed by a balloon on the inside of the bladder to stop it falling out.

After your examination

If you have any problems after the procedure, please speak to the nurse looking after you.

- You will be monitored and allowed to go home after a short period of time.
- When you get home, drink twice as much fluid as you would usually for the next 24 to 48 hours to flush your system through and minimise any bleeding. The catheter will need to be changed initially at around 6 weeks –urology will arrange this for you in the Outpatient Clinic. After this, catheter changes can be performed by your GP or district nurse.

Who has made the decision?

The urology consultant in charge of your care and the interventional radiologist performing the procedure have discussed your case and think that this is the best option. However, you will also have the opportunity for your opinion to be considered and if, after discussion with your doctors, you no longer want the procedure, you can decide against it.

Are there any risks?

As with any procedure, side-effects are possible. The possibility of these happening to you will be discussed with you before the procedure takes place. Despite the possible complications, the procedure is normally very safe. At all times, staff will be monitoring your responses to this treatment to minimise the effects of any complications.

- There may be some pain or discomfort
- Failure to get the catheter in
- Damage to the bowel – this is a very rare but serious complication

Pregnancy

If you are, or think you could be pregnant, please contact us prior to your appointment on the phone number in your appointment letter.

Notes

Finally

The pictures taken during the examination are studied carefully and a detailed report is produced.

The results will be sent to the person who referred you for the test. They will discuss the results with you and any treatment you may need.

You may already have an appointment with the team who referred you. If not, please contact them to arrange one to discuss the results of this test.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call the Radiology Department via the number given on your appointment letter.

As this is a teaching hospital there may be students and observers present during your examination as part of their ongoing training. Please let the staff know if you do not wish any students to be present during your attendance.

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