



NEOBLADDER

Why do I need this done?

If your doctor has arranged for you to have this procedure, this leaflet gives you the basic facts on what is going to happen to you and your body, in an easy to understand way. A neobladder is a pouch to replace the function of your bladder made from a section of bowel. It drains urine from the pouch through to your urethra (water pipe). A neobladder, after training, has the benefit of allowing patients to be generally continent of urine (i.e. controlling when you need to wee), compared to other alternatives such as ileal conduit.

What will happen during surgery?

Following removal of the bladder, a section of bowel is disconnected from the rest of your bowel. This section is sewn together to create a large pouch that collects urine. The cut ends of the ureters that were disconnected from your original bladder are sewn into the neobladder. This is then connected to your urethra to restore drainage through the normal channel. This procedure may take 4 to 7 hours (including the time taken to perform a radical cystectomy).

What to expect after surgery

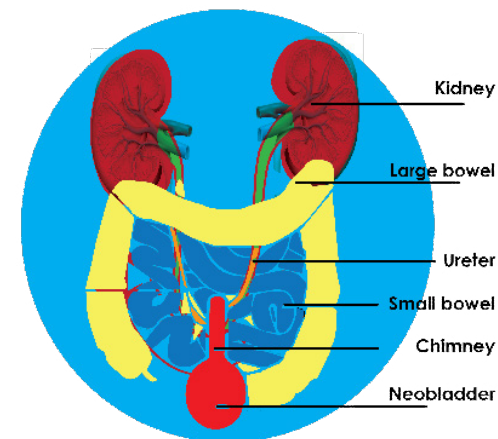
There will be a urinary catheter tube placed through the urethra into the neobladder to allow healing. Another urinary catheter tube may be placed through the abdominal skin into the neobladder temporarily. It is also normal to place stents (thin plastic tubes) from the kidney, through the ureters to the neobladder to protect these new connections after surgery. Removal of these tubes will be arranged following your surgery, once the new joins have healed. Creating a neobladder is complex surgery and usually has a long recovery time. Special neobladder training is required to teach the muscles of the abdomen and pelvic floor to empty the neobladder. You will be taught how to flush mucous from the neobladder in the early weeks. In addition, you will be taught how to slowly increase the volume of urine your neobladder can hold. You may also learn how to insert your own urinary catheter to drain urine.

Going home tips

In addition to the tips after undergoing a radical cystectomy, specific care is required for a neobladder. After surgery, you will be provided with education about how to care for your neobladder. You will learn, and actively participated in neobladder training which you will be able to continue at home. You will learn how to insert a urinary catheter for yourself.

You may also experience:

COMMON	OCCASIONAL	RARE
Blood transfusion in hospital Bowels slow to start working Incontinence after procedure for some months, especially at night Loss of sexual function	Anaesthetic risks Infections (wound, urinary, bowel) Poor appetite / nutrition Gradual decrease in kidney function Large incision	Injury to other organs Further surgery for infection, bowel injury, leakage Later: Hernia from incision site Later: scarring of the bowel or ureters requiring further surgery



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