

# TURBT

## Why do I need this done?

If your doctor has arranged for you to have this procedure, this brochure gives you the basic facts on what is going to happen to you and your body, in an easy to understand way.

**TURBT** or “trans-urethral resection of bladder tumour” is a surgery many patients will have when first diagnosed with bladder cancer. This operation removes abnormal areas of tissue in the bladder to be analysed for diagnosis. Sometimes, TURBT is able to completely remove all cancer in the bladder, other times it might only be able to remove part of the tumour. This can mean that you require additional treatments afterwards.

## What will happen during surgery?

TURBT is done in the operating room and you will usually be asleep under general anaesthetic. typically requires an overnight hospital admission and you might need to stop any blood thinning medications (eg. aspirin) or herbal supplements before the procedure. You should contact your hospital if you have symptoms of urine infection prior to the surgery, and often hospitals will require a urine test in the weeks leading up to TURBT. The TURBT operation involves a special camera (called a resectoscope) being inserted into the bladder through the natural water pipe (the urethra). The bladder tumour can then be seen and removed in small pieces as deep as required. The operation usually takes 30-60 minutes.

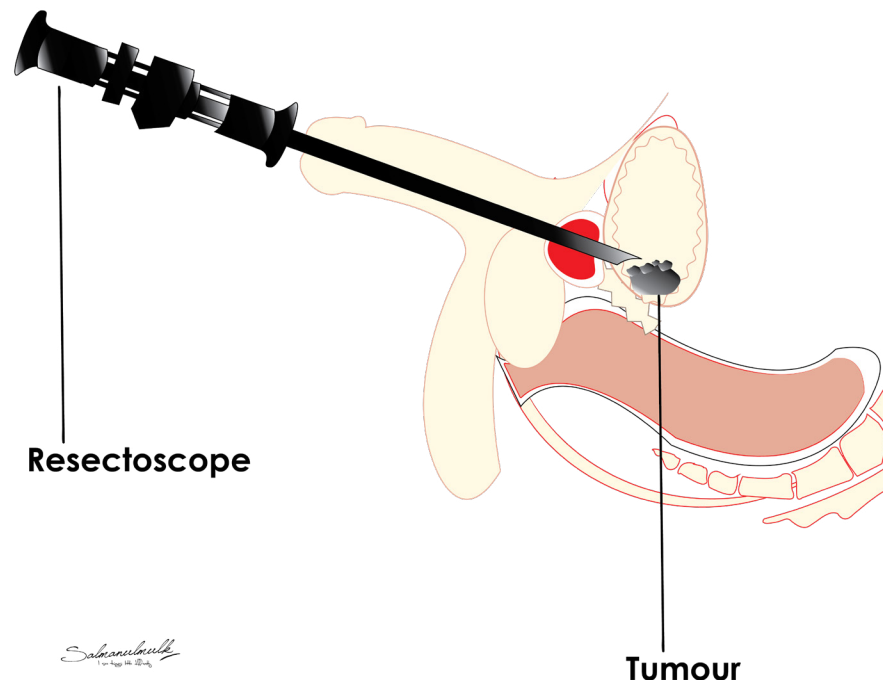
## What to expect after surgery ?

You will wake up with a tube (catheter) in your urethra with fluid running in and out to stop any bleeding. This is called a “continuous bladder washout”. Catheters are often left in until the day following surgery.

After discharge from hospital, bleeding and pain are common when passing urine during healing

## Next steps

After the surgery it can take up to two weeks for the results to come back. Because there is sometimes a lot of information, it is often useful to bring someone else along to this appointment.



COMMON	OCCASIONAL	RARE
Bleeding/burning when passing urine Need for additional treatments to prevent cancer coming back	Bleeding/burning when passing urine Need for additional treatments to prevent cancer coming back	Involvement or injury to nearby structures (blood vessels, spleen, liver, lung, pancreas & bowel) requiring more surgery. Persistent urine leakage from the bladder Anaesthetic or cardiac problems



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[WWW.BLADDERCANCER.ORG.AU/BLADDER-CANCER-CARE-PLAN/](http://WWW.BLADDERCANCER.ORG.AU/BLADDER-CANCER-CARE-PLAN/)

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