
Hospitalisation—Brachytherapy

Frequently Asked Questions

This information leaflet is designed to let you know what you can expect during your stay. This is however, only a guide and your progress may vary from this outline. Please read this information and if you have any questions or concerns at any time, please discuss these with Dr Campbell.

Going to Hospital, and in particular being admitted for a procedure can be a threatening and stressful situation. We appreciate the anxiety that you might be feeling and in order to make the situation less stressful we have designed these leaflets which hopefully will give you a better understanding of what to expect when you have a procedure.

How long will I be in hospital?

The expected Length of hospital Stay is up to 1 night.

If you have any concerns about your ability to cope after your surgery, please discuss this with the nursing staff on admission to hospital.

Community services can be arranged if required, but please note they are not always readily available and not all patients are eligible for funded services.

Please bring your medications and any x-rays relevant to your surgery into hospital.

Please ensure that you have administered a Microlax enema as instructed by Dr Campbell prior to your admission to clear your bowel. After surgery your pain will be controlled effectively with medication. Prior to discharge, you will have resumed your normal diet.

Please ensure you receive an information booklet about Brachytherapy before you go home and that radiation precautions are adhered to as discussed in the booklet.

What happens after I get to hospital?

You will be taken to the Day of Surgery Lounge where a Nurse will complete a medical history if this was not completed prior to your admission.

Your temperature, pulse, blood pressure and weight will be checked.

If you take regular medication, you will continue to do so throughout your stay unless otherwise instructed by Dr Campbell.

If you have any questions about your surgery or hospitalisation please ask your Nurse or Dr Campbell.

What happens before the procedure?

You should not eat or drink for six hours prior to surgery.

You should have showered prior to coming into hospital. Please advise your Nurse if you have not done so.

If you have been taking blood-thinning or anti-inflammatory medication (such as warfarin, aspirin, or alternative medicines), please advise your Nurse.

You should have used a Microlax enema prior to coming to the hospital providing the Doctor with a clear view of your prostate during the procedure.

You will be dressed in a theatre gown and disposable underwear. Compression stockings will be applied to your legs.

You may have a blood test, heart tracing or x-ray taken before your surgery.

The Anaesthetist may visit you before you go into surgery.

Dr Campbell will visit you before the procedure.

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What happens after the procedure?

- ~ You will be taken back to the ward on your bed
- ~ Nursing staff will check your temperature, pulse, blood pressure, and pain level regularly
- ~ A urinary catheter inserted into your bladder during surgery will help you pass urine easily.
- ~ An intravenous drip inserted during surgery will keep you hydrated until you are eating and drinking.
- ~ You can have regular medication for pain. It is important that you tell your Nurse if you have pain
- ~ Nursing staff will help you with your hygiene needs as required
- ~ You will not be able to eat or drink for at least four hours after your surgery. Please check with the Nursing staff before you have anything to eat or drink

What happens on the day of discharge?

The urology team will visit you today

Please remain in your room and attend to your daily morning hygiene after this morning ward round.

Dr Campbell may visit you today.

Please remain in your room and attend to your daily morning hygiene routine after this morning ward round.

You will have a pelvic CT scan in the x-ray department

Prior to discharge, your urinary catheter will be removed. Once your urinary catheter is removed it is important to tell your Nurse when you want to pass urine. After you have been to the toilet your Nurse will use a scanner over your stomach to check that your bladder is emptying properly. This procedure may be repeated 2-3 times and can take up to 4-6 hours to complete.

Medication will be dispensed by the Pharmacist, if required.

You will be eating and drinking normally.

If you have a drip in your arm it will be removed before you go home.

Arrangements for a follow-up appointment and wound care instructions will be explained to you before you go home.

Discharge time is 10am. Please arrange for someone to collect you by this time.

Discharge Advice Following Brachytherapy

You should

Ensure radiation precautions are adhered to as explained in the Brachytherapy Information booklet.

Take medication as ordered and use simple analgesia for discomfort.

Keep your buttocks and surrounding area as clean and dry as possible.

Drink plenty of water, as this helps to flush the bladder

Contact Dr Campbell if you begin to feel unwell or start to experience fever, severe pain, offensive discharge, difficulty passing urine or heavily blood stained urine.

Remember that you may get tired easily for the first few days after you go home, so get plenty of rest and eat a well balanced diet.

You should avoid, for two weeks after discharge

Heavy lifting or strenuous activity. For example shopping, mowing and gardening nursing children on your lap, or sitting very close to children/pregnant women (full precautions are outlined in your information booklet).

Sexual intercourse without a condom and driving.

What else should I look out for?

If you develop a fever, severe pain on passing urine, inability to pass urine or worsening bleeding, you should contact Dr Campbell on (07) 3367-1608, or your family doctor since you may require treatment with antibiotics and/or the temporary passage of a catheter. For after hours emergencies Dr Campbell can be contacted on (07) 33671608.

The Wesley Hospital Emergency Centre (07) 3232-7333, and The Greenslopes Private Hospital Emergency Centre on (07) 3394-7111 are other resources that are also available.

Are there any other specific points?

Your referring doctor will be sent a report of the procedure.

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Who can I contact for more help or information?

Dr Peter Campbell

Suite 9, level 9, Evan Thomson Building, The Wesley Hospital,
Chasely St,

Auchenflower, QLD 4066

(07) 3367 1608,

www.campbellurology.com.au

The Wesley Hospital, Urology Ward

451 Coronation Drive,

Auchenflower, QLD 4066

(07) 3232 7168

www.uhc.com.au/wesley

The Wesley Emergency Centre

451 coronation Drive,

Auchenflower, QLD 4066

(07) 3232 7333

Greenslopes Private Hospital, Continence Advisor

Newdgate St,

Greenslopes, QLD 4120

(07) 3394 7978

www.greenslopesprivate.com.au

Greenslopes Private Hospital Urology Ward

Newdgate St,

Greenslopes, QLD 4120

(07) 3394 7261

www.greenslopesprivate.com.au

Greenslopes Private Hospital Emergency Centre

Newdgate St,

Greenslopes, QLD 4120

(07) 3394 6777

www.greenslopesprivate.com.au

**The Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Hospital,
Urodynamics Department**

Kessels Rd,

Coopers plains, QLD 4108

(07) 3275 6346

American Urological Association Foundation

1000 Corporate Blvd, Suite 410,

Linthicum, MD 21090

1800 828 7866

www.UrologyHealth.org

Thank you for taking the trouble to read this information sheet. If you are satisfied with the explanation of the test, please sign below and this leaflet will be filed in your chart.

If you wish to retain a copy for you own records, one will be provided.

I have read this information sheet and I accept the information it provides.

Signature

Date
