

## FLEXIBLE CYSTOSCOPY

### ***What does this procedure involve?***

A flexible cystoscopy is a diagnostic procedure to examine the inside of your bladder. It can also be used to remove ureteric stents or administer Botox injections into your bladder. It is usually performed while you are awake with only local anaesthetic to the waterpipe (urethra).

### ***What are the alternatives?***

1. Rigid cystoscopy is usually performed under general or spinal anaesthesia. Your urologist will let you know if this is necessary. If a lesion is seen at flexible cystoscopy your urologist will book you in for a rigid cystoscopy at another date.
2. No treatment: this may leave your symptoms unexplained

### ***What happens on the day?***

Your urologist will review your history and medications and your bladder diary. You must let the staff know if you have any allergies, especially to latex. The procedure will be discussed with you again and consent obtained.

### ***Details of the procedure***

- You will be lying down on a patient bed
- You may watch the procedure on a large screen if you wish
- Local anaesthetic in the form a jelly is applied to the water pipe (urethra)
- Men sometimes find it uncomfortable when the cystoscope passes the prostate. This only lasts a few seconds
- Sterile water is run through the scope into your bladder to fill it
- Once the bladder lining has been inspected, the scope is gently removed and you will be taken to recovery to pass urine.
- You will be able to go home the same day. If you only had local anaesthetic you may drive home.

### ***Are there any possible after effects?***

After Effect	Risk
Burning or discomfort passing urine	Almost all patients
Blood in your urine	Almost all patients
Infection in your urine requiring antibiotics	Between 1 in 50 & 1 in 100 patients

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### *Before the procedure*

Please let your urologist know if you are prone to urine infections or have any metal prosthesis in your body

You do not need to stop any blood thinners before this procedure.

### *After the procedure*

- Burning or bleeding usually lasts no more than 2 days
- Drink plenty of fluids for 24 hours after the procedure
- If you develop fevers, severe pain on passing urine or inability to urinate, you should contact the rooms immediately
- A follow up appointment may be made for you to discuss further treatment
- It is safe for you to drive home, return to work and take your regular medications

## References

- The United Kingdom Continence Society
- British Association of Urological Surgeons