

## Other information

We hope this leaflet has given you helpful information, but if you have more questions, please do not hesitate to ask for further details. Your Consultant Colorectal Surgeon is Mr Stephen Dalton.

If you have any suggestions about how this leaflet or your care could be improved, or other information that would be helpful to include in this leaflet, please let us know by contacting the Colorectal Surgical Unit on 01225 824922 or email [g.maxwell@nhs.net](mailto:g.maxwell@nhs.net)

Larger print copies and translations can be made available on request.

**Thank you for reading this leaflet. We hope it has helped you.**

Leaflet available from:

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**RUH**

Information for Patients

## Transanal Endoscopic Operation (TEO)



This leaflet explains what is involved in a Transanal Endoscopic Operation and what you can expect before and after surgery.

## What is TEO

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Transanal Endoscopic Operation (TEO) also known as Transanal Endoscopic Microsurgery, is a technique for performing surgery through the back passage (rectum). This technique usually does not result in any incisions (cuts) or external scars either in the abdomen or in the genital areas.

TEO is most commonly used to remove benign or non-cancerous growths (polyps) from the rectum. Until now, these polyps would have been removed either with a major operation or by removing in pieces with a standard endoscopy – a small tube inserted into the rectum.

The use of TEO means that more of these polyps can be removed completely without major surgery. This technique is also occasionally used to remove very early cancers from the rectum. The removed growth will be examined in our laboratory and the results of these tests will be either sent to your GP or discussed with you within 10 to 14 days of the operation.

## What should I expect before the operation?

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In order to clean out the bowel prior to surgery you will be given an oral fluid preparation to take at home the day before surgery, or in some patients an enema may be given on the day of surgery. This is a small capsule, inserted into the rectum which simulates a bowel action.

## What should I expect after surgery?

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You are likely to stay in hospital a couple of days after the operation. Some people will feel some discomfort in the back passage but this is rarely painful. You will be given pain killers if

required. A slight temperature is common after the operation and we routinely prescribe a short course of antibiotics to reduce this.

## What complications may occur?

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A small amount of bleeding from the rectum often happens in the first couple of days after surgery. This almost always stops without further surgery though occasionally this is necessary.

Because bacteria from your bowel will be present in your rectum, at the surgery, a small proportion of patients may develop a significant degree of infection around their rectum. This is usually treated with a course of intravenous antibiotics and rarely causes serious problems, though occasionally further surgery is required. Your surgeon will talk to you about this if the infection is significant.

*If after you have gone home from hospital, you start to feel more unwell, or develop pain in your lower back, abdomen or pelvic region you should contact your doctor as these could be signs of a developing infection.*

Some patients develop a degree of minor incontinence for a period after the operation; you may experience slight staining of underwear and seepage of mucus. This almost always returns to normal without any treatment.

In some patients we are unable to remove the polyp fully by the TEO technique and in this case a major operation may be required. We usually know if this is likely, either immediately after your operation, or once the test results on the polyps are available. If we do feel that you will need further surgery, you will of course have a chance to talk this through with your surgeon prior to any such surgery.