

NHS Forth Valley

Post procedure advice following:

ERCP (Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangio- Pancreatography)

Patient Information

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consisting of two overlapping, stylized blue waves that meet at a central point, creating a V-shape. The waves are light blue and have a soft, rounded appearance.

Introduction

Today you have had a procedure called an ERCP. This allowed the doctor to take detailed x-rays of the bile and pancreatic ducts. You should refer to this leaflet if you feel unwell afterwards even if your procedure was unsuccessful.

- Please do not have a heavy meal for 24 hours.
- Light soup and fluids can be taken this evening.
- Do not take any fatty foods for a week.

Abdominal discomfort

If you have any abdominal discomfort, this is most likely due to “wind”. This effect should not last long; passing wind will alleviate this discomfort. Mild analgesia can be taken i.e. paracetamol if necessary. Peppermint Oil preparations or peppermint tea can also help. **Occasionally the pancreas and/or biliary tract can be irritated by the procedure. If this happens you would experience severe abdominal pain, accompanied by vomiting and fever (shaking/rigors). In this situation you should telephone your GP or NHS 24 0845 24 24 24 and explain you have had an ERCP and your symptoms. If however, you have difficulty getting through to NHS 24 0845 24 24 24 and your symptoms are as above, report straight to the Emergency Department at Forth Valley Royal Hospital. You may need to be admitted to hospital for treatment.**

Bleeding

If it has been necessary to make a small cut in the bile duct, bleeding may occur. This may present itself as vomiting blood or passing black motions. In this situation you should telephone your GP or NHS 24 and explain you have had an ERCP and your symptoms. If however, you have difficulty getting through to NHS 24 and your symptoms are as above, report straight to the Emergency Department at Forth Valley Royal Hospital. You may need to be admitted to hospital.

Sore throat

You may have a sore throat where the instrument has been. This is quite normal and will pass after 24-48 hours. Sucking lozenges or gargling with salt may help.

Discomfort at the injection site

You may experience a slight discomfort in the arm into which the sedative injection was given. A cold icepack may give some relief, however, should any swelling, tenderness or redness of the injection site become increasingly uncomfortable, please advise your General Practitioner (GP).

You may resume your normal prescription medicines.

You may resume your normal diet unless otherwise instructed by your doctor.

Remember

If you have had a sedative, you may have difficulty remembering. DO NOT drive a vehicle, go to work, use machinery, drink alcohol or sign any legally binding documents for 24 hours.

Further advice about your condition will be given by your own GP or at your next clinic appointment if one is planned.

Following today's procedure, a copy of the procedure report will be sent to your GP within the next 10-14days.

Your named nurse was:.....

Follow up information:.....

.....

Remember, if you received throat spray (local anaesthetic), please do not have anything to eat or drink until

For more information please contact:

**THE FORTH VALLEY ROYAL HOSPITAL
Endoscopy Unit
(01324 567518) Mon – Fri 9am – 4pm**

If you can't go let us know!

Every month around 2,000 people across Forth Valley fail to turn up for hospital appointments. This costs the NHS millions of pounds each year and increases waiting times. So if you are unable to attend or no longer require your hospital appointment please let us know so we can offer it to someone else.

We are happy to consider requests for this publication in other languages or formats such as large print. Please call [01324 590886 \(9-5\)](tel:01324590886) to arrange this or email fv.disabilitydepartment@nhs.scot

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This includes corridors, doorways, car parks and any of our grounds. If you do smoke on NHS premises you may be liable to prosecution and a fine.



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