

Advice following a colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy with entonox

Information and advice for patients

Endoscopy

You have had a colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy with Entonox. Entonox is a gas mixture of nitrous oxide and oxygen. It is used as a painkiller and the effects wear off within minutes.

Pain

You may experience some tummy pain and discomfort following your colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy due to the air we have put into your bowel. Walking around and taking simple painkillers such as paracetamol will help. Follow the dosage instructions on the packet. You may also pass small amounts of blood from your back passage following the test, this is normal.

Normal activities

You should be able to resume all of your normal activities as soon as you feel well enough. This includes driving and work.

Results

We will send a copy of your colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy report to the doctor or nurse who referred you for the procedure.

We will also send a copy of this to your GP.

If your GP referred you for the procedure please make an appointment to see them.

Follow-up

You were referred for this appointment by: _____

A follow up appointment has been arranged for _____

Symptoms to report

Please contact us if you experience any of the following symptoms after this procedure:

- Breathing problems
- Severe pain in your tummy
- Passing a lot of blood or blood clots from your back passage
- Appearing pale
- Clammy skin (cold, moist skin)
- A temperature of 38°C

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Contact details

Please contact us on one of the following numbers if you have any questions or concerns:

Daytime

Sandwell Hospital Endoscopy Unit

0121 507 2488

8am - 6.30pm, Monday - Friday

City Hospital Endoscopy Unit

0121 507 5318

8am - 6.30pm Monday - Friday

Evening and weekends

Sandwell Hospital, Priory 5 Gastroenterology Ward 0121 507 3493

6.30pm - 8am, Monday - Friday and weekends

City Hospital, Ward D15 Gastroenterology Ward 0121 507 4405

6.30pm - 8am, Monday - Friday and weekends

You can also contact NHS Direct for advice on 0845 46 47.

They are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Further information

Further information about gastroenterological conditions can be found at:

<http://www.corecharity.org.uk/archive/conditions>

For more information about our hospitals and services please see our websites www.swbh.nhs.uk and www.swbhengage.com, follow us on Twitter @SWBHnhs and like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/SWBHnhs.

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Sources used for the information in this leaflet

- British Society of Gastroenterology, 'Guidelines on safety and sedation during endoscopic procedures', 2003
- Joint Royal Colleges Ambulance Liaison Committee, 'UK Ambulance Service Clinical Practice Guidelines', 2006
- Joint Formulary Committee, 'British National Formulary', September 2012

If you would like to suggest any amendments or improvements to this leaflet please contact the communications department on 0121 507 5420 or email: swb-tr.swbh-gm-patient-information@nhs.net



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