A guide to...

Aftercare for CT Pneumocolon

Patient information

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A CT pneumocolon involves using a large amount of carbon dioxide to inflate your bowel. Following the scan you will have been advised to go to the toilet to pass as much air as possible.

For some time after the test your stomach may feel bloated. This is caused by the air that was introduced into your bowel.

This discomfort should settle on its own but you may find massaging your stomach, passing wind, warm drinks, a hot water bottle and a warm bath will help with the discomfort.

After your CT scan, you may eat and drink normally but you might find that you pass loose motions for several days. If after the investigation you experience a fever, severe stomach pains or bleeding (more than an eggcup full), please attend your nearest acute Accident and Emergency department bringing with you this leaflet.

You may have been given a drug called Buscopan to relax the bowels. Very rarely this can cause acute glaucoma (pressure built up in the eyes).

If you develop any eye pain or change in your vision please seek immediate medical attention at the Accident and Emergency department and inform them you had 1ml of Buscopan 20mg/ml IV injection for the CT scan.

For male patients, if you experience difficulty in passing urine please seek medical attention.

Further information