



A guide to...

Aftercare for ERCP

Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangio Pancreatography *Patient Information*

How to contact us

Endoscopy departments

West Hertfordshire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

Watford General Hospital

01923 436095

If you need this leaflet in another language, large print, Braille, or audio version, please call **01923 217 198** or email westherts.pals@nhs.net



Language



Large
Print



Braille



Audio

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You have been given sedation

Due to the lingering effects of the sedation used, it is important that you rest for the remainder of the day and that you have someone to stay with you overnight. It is also important that you do not drive, return to work, operate machinery, sign legal documents, work at heights, take sleeping tablets or drink alcohol for 24 hours afterwards.

After the test

If you are feeling well two hours after your procedure, you can have free fluids and you can eat after four hours. However, if there is any sign of pain, you may need to avoid eating and drinking for longer and the nurse will advise you accordingly.

You may have a sore throat for a short time after the test. This is normal and should pass during the day; having cold drinks can ease this. You can eat and drink normally once you are home.

If you have any of the symptoms below, you should attend your nearest Accident and Emergency department and take a copy of your report:

- severe chest pain
- severe tummy pain, black stools
- bleeding from the back passage swelling in the neck
- shortness of breath, high temperature, feeling unwell
- eye pain or change in vision, (Buscopan is sometimes given as part of ERCP).

If you have had a stent inserted and you find that after a period of time your urine becomes darker, you develop a temperature, have tummy pain or feel unwell, it is possible that your stent may be blocked, and you should go to Accident and Emergency.

Accident and Emergency at Watford on **01923 217 256**

Please note there is no Accident and Emergency at Hemel Hempstead or St Albans City Hospitals.

Who can I contact if I have any questions?

Please do not hesitate to telephone the Endoscopy Department on **01923 436 095** (Monday to Friday 8.00am – 6.00pm).

Your named nurse today was:

Follow up care:

The following arrangements have been made for you:

You are being discharged back to your GP.

You need another ERCP

You will be contacted nearer the time to arrange.

You need to be seen in outpatients.

You require another test (please state):

Please note that a copy of your endoscopy report and any specimens taken will be accessible to the doctor who requested the test and your GP surgery.