NHS
West Hertfordshire
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Trust

Aftercare for CT Pneumocolon

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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 this leaflet with you.

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.

NB: If you have been referred by the Bowel Cancer Screening Programme someone will contact you with your result in due course by telephone.

How to contact us
CT Scanning Department
Radiology
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If you need this leaflet in another language, large print, Braille or audio version, please call **01923 217198** or email **westherts.pals@nhs.net**

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