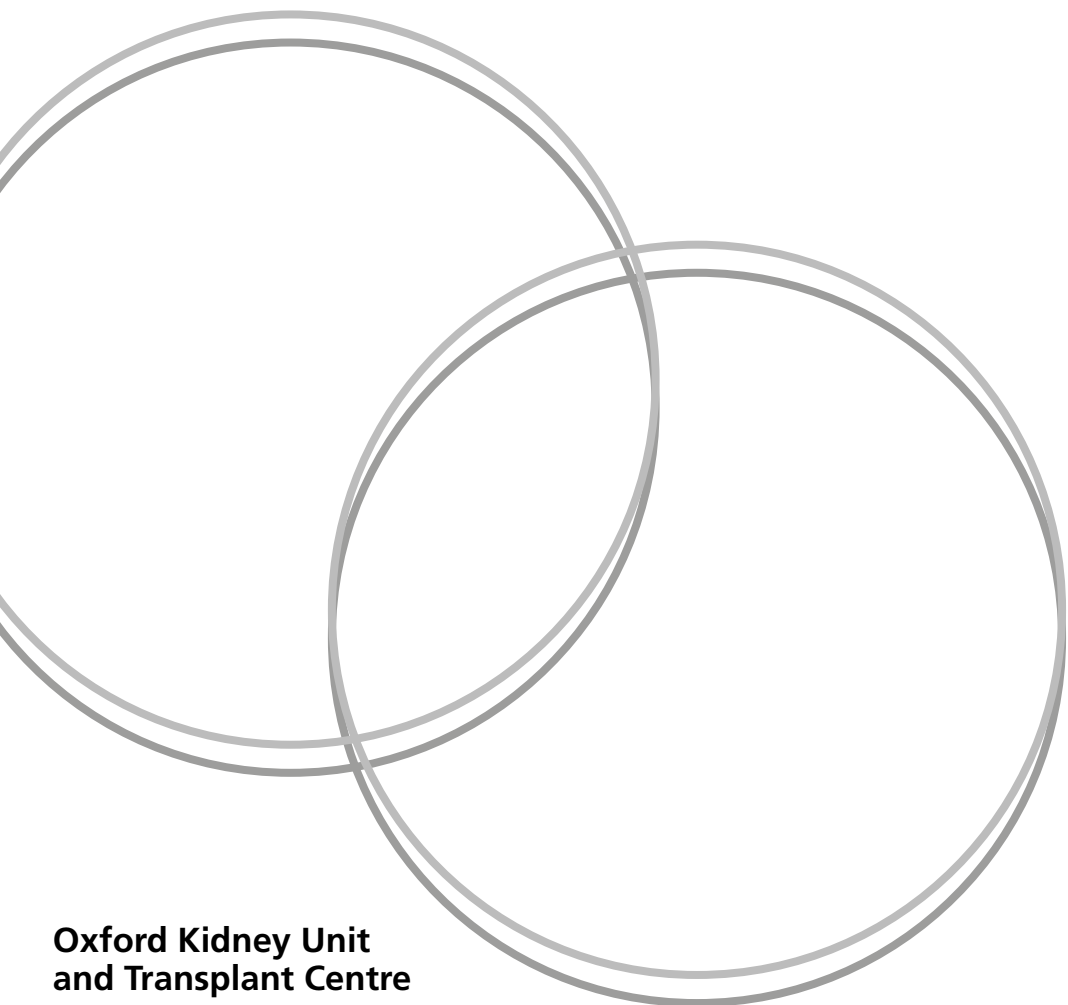




Oxford University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Removal of your Peritoneal Dialysis (PD) catheter

Information for patients



Oxford Kidney Unit
and Transplant Centre

This leaflet will provide you with information about your peritoneal dialysis (PD) catheter removal. If you require further information, please contact your PD nurse.

Your PD catheter can be removed in one of two ways. Your kidney doctor, transplant doctor, or PD nurse will discuss with you which method is best for you.

If you are taking medication that thins your blood, such as warfarin, clopidogrel or apixiban, please call the PD Unit on 01865 225 792 for advice at least a week before your catheter removal. It is best to avoid these medications for a week before your catheter is removed, if it is safe for you to do so.

How will my PD catheter be removed?

The two methods are:

- PD catheter pull
- surgical operation.

The differences in the procedures are shown below:

PD pull	Surgical operation
No need for general anaesthetic and operation.	Need to be fit for an operation and general anaesthesia (when you will be made unconscious).
Takes a few minutes.	Procedure takes about 20 minutes. You will be in hospital for 4-6 hours.
No interruption to work or home schedule.	No work for 1-2 weeks (depending on the type of work you do).
Exit site should have healed within 2-4 days, no bathing or showers until completely healed.	Exit site and wound sites take 7-10 days to heal, no bathing or showers during this time.
Cuffs (which stop your PD catheter falling out) are usually left inside you.	Cuffs removed during operation.
Procedure can be carried out in a clinic room.	Requires theatre admission, and pre-operative assessment a week before the operation.
Cuffs may become infected at a later date (4 in 100 patients).	After surgery, wounds may: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bleed • become infected (rare).
Catheter may snap during procedure (very rare).	No heavy lifting for 3 weeks after the operation.
Can be uncomfortable during procedure.	May experience some pain after the operation.
Can drive after the procedure.	Cannot drive for 2 weeks after the operation.

PD pull – how is this carried out?

After a nurse or doctor has explained the procedure to you, they will ask you to sign a consent form. We will then ask you to lie on a couch or bed. Your dressing will be removed and your exit site inspected. If there is any sign of infection you will be referred to a surgeon for surgical removal, as pulling the tube and leaving the cuffs inside your abdomen may lead to a further infection.

If the superficial cuff is near to where your tube comes out of your abdomen, we will give you a local anaesthetic to make the area numb, so that we can remove the superficial cuff. We will then continue with the PD pull.

With one hand we will apply firm pressure to your tummy around the PD catheter site. We will then pull steadily and firmly on the catheter with the other hand. After a few moments the tubing will slide out of your abdomen. Sometimes the superficial cuff (nearest the exit site) will also slide out. A dressing will then be applied over the exit site.

Surgical operation – how is this carried out?

This type of operation is recommended for infected PD exit sites, as all of the catheter and cuffs are removed. This is carried out using a mini 'laparotomy' operation, usually under a general anaesthesia.

A small cut (4-5cm) will be made just below your belly button. The surgeon will remove the catheter and cuffs from your abdominal cavity. The cut will be closed using dissolvable stitches on the inside and non-dissolvable stitches on the outside.

The dressing will need to be replaced weekly until the wound has healed (about 2 weeks). If you have any stitches on the outside they will need to be removed between 10 and 14 days after your operation.

We will give you a separate leaflet called 'Preparing for my operation: information for people with chronic kidney disease' that tells you what you will need to do before your operation. Please ask your nurse for a copy if you have not received one.

Returning home after removal of your PD catheter

Type of procedure/ operation	PD pull	PD surgical operation
Wound care	There is usually no bleeding and no stitches to be removed. Leave the dressing in place. After 2 days, remove the dressing. If it still looks raw, cover with a new dressing for another 2 days. Your wound should be healed after 4 days. If it is not, phone your PD nurse.	Temporary bleeding and bruising. If you have applied 2 new dressings and blood continues to leak through the dressing, contact your PD nurse or the Renal Ward immediately. Leave the dressing in place for 7 days. If you have stitches that need removing, this can be done by your GP's practice nurse or PD nurse. These are usually removed 10-14 days after your operation.
Bathing instructions	No bathing or showers for 2-4 days, until the dressing can be removed.	No bathing or showers until the stitches are removed.
Pain control	You should be pain free once the procedure is completed.	Take paracetamol as directed on the packet.
Driving	Allowed.	Do not drive for 2 weeks after operation.
Working	No interruption to work schedule.	Depending on your type of work it is best that you rest for 7-10 days before going back to your normal activities. If your work is physically demanding you may feel you need a longer time away from work to recover fully.
If you experience severe abdominal pain, or your wound/exit site becomes red, inflamed or painful, contact your PD Unit or the Renal ward immediately.		

How to contact us

Oxford PD Unit

Tel: 01865 225 792

(8.00am to 6.00pm, Monday to Friday. Leave a message if no one available.)

Wycombe PD Unit

Tel: 01494 426 349

(8.00am to 6.00pm, Monday to Thursday. Leave a message if no one available.)

Swindon PD Unit

Tel: 01793 605 288

(8.00am to 4.00pm, Monday to Friday. Leave a message if no one available.)

Milton Keynes PD Unit

Tel: 01908 996 495

(8.00am to 4.00pm, Monday to Friday. Leave a message if no one available.)

Renal Ward

Tel: 01865 225 780

(24 hours, includes weekends and bank holidays)

Useful information

Oxford Kidney unit

Useful information about the Oxford Kidney Unit for patients and carers.

Website: www.ouh.nhs.uk/oku

Kidney Care UK

Website supporting kidney patients and their family.

Website: www.kidneycareuk.org

If you need an interpreter or would like this information leaflet in another format, such as Easy Read, large print, Braille, audio, electronically or another language, please speak to the department where you are being seen. You will find their contact details on your appointment letter.

Making a difference across our hospitals

charity@ouh.nhs.uk | 01865 743 444 | hospitalcharity.co.uk

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www.ouh.nhs.uk/information

