

Trial without catheter (TWOC)

following a Prostatectomy

A thick green horizontal line that ends in a stylized ECG (heart rate) waveform on the right side.

Urology Clinical
Nurse Specialists

01935 384 394
yeovilhospital.nhs.uk

The logo for Yeovil Hospital Healthcare, featuring a stylized 'Y' inside a circle with a rainbow-colored border.

Yeovil Hospital
Healthcare

The catheter you have in place following your surgery is removed in the morning and you will see the nurse again later that day. The time you return varies from patient to patient.

You have had the catheter in place to allow the wound to heal where your prostate has been removed.

We sometimes refer to having a catheter removed as a TWOC (Trial Without Catheter)

The catheter is held in place by a small balloon which is inflated with water. To deflate the balloon a syringe is attached to the valve at the end of the catheter. The catheter is then gently removed. This procedure is not usually painful, but can be a little uncomfortable.

Along with the removal of your prostate, some of the mechanisms that help keep you dry will have been removed/bruised and you may notice that you are unable to fully control your bladder when the catheter is first removed. The nurse will provide you with a few pads. However, it would be a good idea to have some at home.

You should have discussed the benefit of regular pelvic floor exercises with the nurse. These will also help improve your continence if done regularly and correctly.

You will be asked to come back to see the nurse later in the day. This will give you the opportunity to discuss any questions you may have. She will be able to discuss further the benefits of the pelvic floor exercises, your erectile function, continence and any other concerns you or your partner may have.

You will be asked to keep a record of what you drink, if you are able to pass urine and how many pads you use.

Some men will want to go home and come back later, while others go to the canteen or coffee shop. There are toilets next to each of these facilities.

If the nurse is concerned, she will perform a simple scan when you return. This is to check that you are emptying your bladder.

Arrangements for your future care will then be discussed with you either at Yeovil or the centre where you had your operation.

Useful numbers

Urology Clinical Nurse Specialists
01935 384 394

Yeovil Hospital main switchboard
01935 475 122

**If you need this leaflet
in another format, eg.
large print or a different
language, please ask a
member of staff.**

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