

POST-URETEROSCOPY

You have had a procedure to treat a stone (or other problem) in the ureter (the tube joining the kidney to the bladder) or in the kidney itself. This involved passing a small tube through the urethra (water pipe) into the bladder and then into the ureter or kidney. During the procedure fluids are flushed through the telescope to enable adequate vision. The stone was either removed in a single piece or may have been broken up into smaller fragments or disintegrated with the laser. In most cases a plastic tube called a stent will have been placed to prevent any post-operative problems that can occur from bleeding or remaining fragments of stone. One end of this stent is in your kidney and the other end is in the bladder. Antibiotics will have been given to reduce the risk of infection.

Following the procedure, you may notice some discomfort in your back. This is usually related to the flushing of the kidney required to easily identify the stone. This ache will settle over the next day or two. You may also notice some blood in the urine but again this will settle over the next day or two. This can be reduced by drinking plenty of water. If the pain or bleeding persists or if you are concerned please contact Dr Ende via the switchboard at St Vincent's Private Hospital.

If a stent has been placed, you may also notice an increased frequency in the desire to void that is also associated with some back ache. This is related to the stent irritating the lining of the bladder and may be intermittent or persist for some time. Unfortunately, the stent is often required to prevent any complications such as blockage of the kidney or infection. The stent may also cause intermittent bleeding which again should settle by itself but is helped by drinking plenty of fluids.

In most cases you do not need any antibiotics when you go home although these may be prescribed in certain circumstances.

Please ensure that you have an appointment to be followed up by Dr Ende and note that you may require a new X-ray before coming to see him. A form may have been given to you before discharge. If not and you think you may need an X-ray please contact the rooms and one will be sent to you in the mail.

