

Patient information

Specialist Early Rectal Cancer MDT A Guide to Investigations Which May Be Required

Digestive Diseases Care Group

Investigations

❖ Blood Tests

These may have been done before your clinic appointment and may prompt further blood tests. Your blood results will tell us if you could be anaemic or lacking in certain salts and mineral levels.

❖ Colonoscopy

This is a camera test (endoscopy) that allows us to look at the large bowel (colon). It will tell us if you have any problems in the large bowel. This test will allow us to take small samples for assessment and to remove small polyps identified during the test.

It may be helpful to keep a record of the date and time of your Colonoscopy appointment here:

Date..... Time.....

❖ Flexible Sigmoidoscopy

This is a camera test (endoscopy) that allows us to look at the left side or lower large bowel (colon). It will tell us more about the disease in your rectum and allow us to take small samples for assessment and to remove small polyps identified during the test.

The results will help to decide on the best treatment for the problem or whether further tests or examinations are needed.

It may be helpful to keep a record of the date and time of your Sigmoidoscopy appointment here:

Date..... Time.....

❖ CT Colonography

CT (computerised tomography) takes a series of X-Rays of the body from different angles. CT Colonography is an investigation that is also called a virtual colonoscopy.

Instead of having a Colonoscope put into your bowel, a computer uses scanning images to examine your bowel. The CT scan uses a small amount of Radiation. The results will help us decide on the best treatment for the problem or whether further tests or examinations are needed.

It may be helpful to keep a record of the date and time of your CT scan appointment here:

Date..... Time.....

❖ MRI Scan

MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging). This type of scan uses magnetism to build up a picture of the inside of the body. MRI is completely painless, but the scanner is very noisy. There are some people who cannot have an MRI Scan –as the scan uses magnetism certain types of metal can affect it.

If you have certain types of metal surgical clips, plates or a pacemaker inside your body, you cannot have the Scan. The results will help us decide on the best treatment for the problem or whether further tests or examinations are needed.

It may be helpful to keep a record of the date and time of your MRI appointment here:

Date..... Time.....

❖ Endoanal Ultrasound

This is a specialist type of X-Ray for lesions in the rectum. A long, thin probe is inserted into the back passage (anus). An ultrasound scanner is built into this probe and images can be taken of the lower most part of the bowel and anus.

The results will help us decide on the best treatment for the problem or whether further tests or examinations are needed.

It may be helpful to keep a record of the date and time of your Endoanal USS appointment here:

Date..... Time.....

Feedback

Your feedback is important to us and helps us influence care in the future. Following your discharge from hospital or attendance at your outpatient appointment you will receive a text asking if you would recommend our service to others. Please take the time to text back, you will not be charged for the text and can opt out at any point. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

Further information

If you have any questions or problems please contact

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Text phone number: 18001 0151 706 3453

Bowel Cancer UK
Tel: 08008403540
www.bowelcanceruk.org.uk

Macmillan Cancer Support
www.macmillan.org.uk

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All Trust approved information is available on request in alternative formats, including other languages, easy read, large print, audio, Braille, moon and electronically.

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