

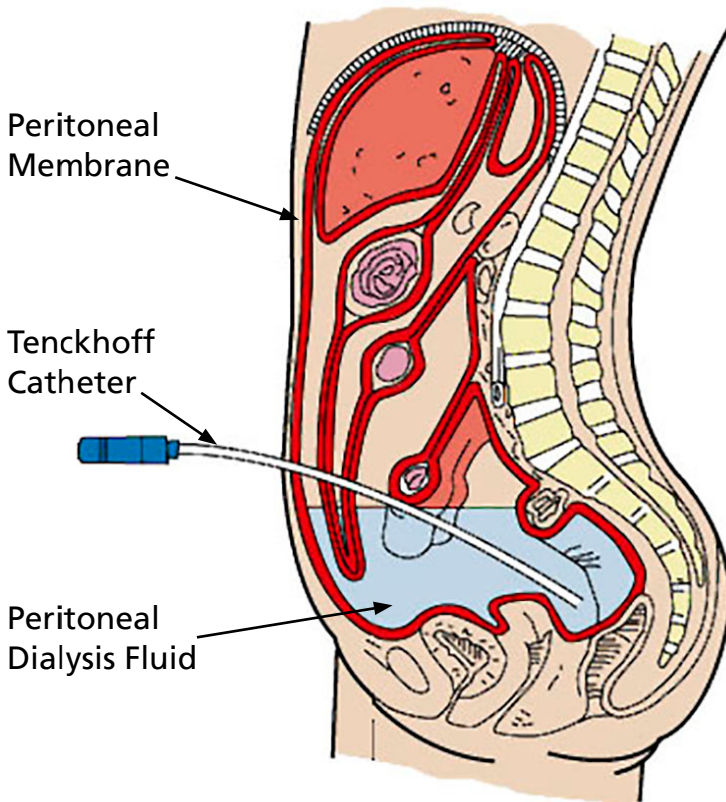
Peritoneal Dialysis

Pre-operative information for
patients & relatives



What is a PD Catheter?

A Peritoneal Dialysis (PD) Catheter (sometimes called a Tenckhoff Catheter) is a small tube that is inserted into the abdominal cavity (space around the organs within your stomach) and has cuffs to hold it in place. Some of the catheter sits on the outside of the body. It is soft to touch and feels quite comfortable when taped against your skin. The PD Catheter is used to infuse fluid (called dialysate), to hold it inside (dwells) and to drain it out of your abdomen.



What do I need to do before the procedure?

When you are ready to start Peritoneal Dialysis, which has already been discussed with you by the pre-dialysis team, you will receive a letter asking you to attend a Pre-Assessment Clinic at Leeds General Infirmary. At this appointment you will be seen by a Pre-assessment Nurse and Anaesthetist. Pre-operative preparations will also take place such as: physical examination, chest x-ray, ECG, blood tests, and MRSA swabs. Fasting instructions will be given as you will not be allowed to eat and drink from 12 midnight the night before the procedure.

You will also be seen by a Peritoneal Dialysis nurse who will look at your abdomen and decide where to place the catheter and will mark your skin.

The nurses will also talk to you about the following:

- Decolonisation treatment - This is normally given five days pre-operatively to reduce the risks of infection.
- Bowel preparation - These are laxatives to be taken five days before your surgery and to continue after your surgery. This will help to keep your bowels moving (you will be given a prescription).
- Information regarding care of your wound and exit site dressing post surgery and up to starting PD training.

This is also an opportunity for you to discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

What happens on the day of the procedure?

On the day of the procedure, you will report to David Beever's Day Unit (DBDU) at St James' University Hospital, or L34 at Leeds General Infirmary for 07:15am. A nurse, anaesthetist and surgeon will see you and you will be asked to sign a consent form. Please bring all your medication with you.

How is a PD Catheter inserted?

A surgical operation under general anaesthesia is required to insert the catheter into your abdomen. You will have a small incision just below your umbilicus. The catheter will exit on the previously marked site either to the right or left. The procedure will last for about an hour and will normally be carried out as a day case.

What happens after the procedure?

After the procedure, you will be monitored on the ward for the rest of the day. You will usually be sent home in the evening of the procedure. You must be with a responsible adult who will look after you at home for the first 24 hours after you have your operation.

A follow-up home visit will be conducted by a PD nurse five days after your operation. They will check and try your catheter to ensure it is working. Your wound will also be checked and your dressing changed. Make sure your catheter is taped securely to your abdomen at all times to avoid any pulling or damage to exit site. You should call the PD department immediately if you notice a lot of bleeding from your exit site.

You will be asked NOT to do the following:

- Do not touch your dressing until seen by a PD nurse.
- Do not drive for around six weeks.
- Do not shower for 14 days to allow healing and to prevent infection.
- Do not do any heavy lifting.
- Do not wear tight or restrictive clothing and belts.

You are also advised to continue taking laxatives as constipation prevents the flow of dialysis fluids which results in training being delayed. However, if you have relatively loose stools please contact the PD Unit.

Your training will be discussed with you on your first home visit. If you require transport for this, please contact PD staff at least four working days before your training.

When can my PD Catheter be used?

Generally, you can use the PD Catheter 10 to 14 days after insertion to allow the catheter site to fully heal. However, this varies according to your blood results and how you are feeling.

Contact details

Pre-Dialysis Team - 0113 206 6719

Vascular Access - 0113 206 4112

Peritoneal Dialysis - 0113 206 5756

Male Renal Ward - 0113 206 9149

Female Renal Ward - 0113 206 9150

LGI Pre-assessment Team - 0113 392 3458



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