The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

You are having a Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy (Corflo PEG) pull procedure

Information for patients

Adult Therapies

What is a PEG Pull?

A PEG pull is the term used for removing a feeding tube from the stomach. The type of PEG you have is traction removable, which means it can be pulled out by the nurses at the hospital.

Why do I need a PEG Pull?

Your dietitian or feeding company nurses have advised that you need to have your tube removed or replaced. This may be because you are eating and drinking enough by mouth now or that your PEG tube is worn and needs to be replaced with a new tube.

Where will the PEG Pull take place?

This will take place in the endoscopy unit at St James's Hospital; however, you will not be having an endoscopy (a thin flexible tube with a camera on the end) to remove this type of tube.

An appointment will be arranged by the tube feeding nurses who will call to arrange a time and date with you.

What happens during the procedure?

The nurses will clean the exit site on your stomach and put on some lubricating jelly. They will cut the end of the tube off and place one hand on your abdomen around your PEG exit site. They will press down firmly and pull the tube hard and fast with the other hand. This takes no more than a couple of seconds.

Will it hurt?

The procedure can cause some pain when the tube is pulled out. This typically lasts for a few seconds. You may wish to take pain relief after your appointment when you get home.

Are there any risks?

Bleeding

A PEG Pull is done very quickly, and this may cause bleeding. If this happens, the nurse will clean the PEG site and cover it with a dressing.

If you are taking blood thinning medication, such as warfarin, this will need to be stopped for a short time before the procedure because there will be a higher risk of you bleeding. You can start taking your medication again the day after your tube has been removed / replaced.

Retained Bumper

When the tube is pulled out, the small foam bumper, which holds your PEG tube in place is squeezed through the exit hole. Sometimes, this bumper can get left behind in the stomach. Whilst the bumper is likely to be passed out when you open your bowels, very rarely it may cause a blockage in your bowels.

If you have a retained bumper, you will be given advice about what to look out for and what to do if you need medical attention.

Unable to remove

Very rarely, the nurses may be unable to remove the PEG by pulling it out. If this happens, we will need to book you another appointment to have the tube removed with an endoscope.

Misplacement of new tube

If you are having a new tube placed, very rarely these can go the wrong way into the outer part of the stomach. If the nurses suspect this might have happened, they will arrange a scan to check where the tube has been placed. If the scan shows the tube has been misplaced it will be removed and you may need to have a new PEG inserted.

How do I prepare for the PEG Pull?

The feeding company nurses will take some swabs from your PEG site, armpits, groin and nose. This is to test for multi-resistant bacteria (germs). If the result shows you don't have the bacteria on your skin, we will make the appointment for you.

If the result shows you do have the bacteria on your skin, you will need to have some special body and hair washes leading up to the appointment. This is to reduce the risk of an infection from the PEG pull procedure.

You will need to have an empty stomach to prevent leakage from your stomach when the tube is pulled out. You will be asked to stop your feed and not eat and drink for a short time before the procedure.

If you are on blood thinning medication you will be asked to stop these. The enteral feeding nurses will advise you about this.

If you are having your tube replaced and normally take acid reducing medication, we will also ask that you don't take this on the morning of the procedure. This is so that the nurses can get a good acid test result after the tube has been replaced so they can be sure the tube has gone into the stomach.

What happens after the PEG Pull?

Once the tube is out, the nurses will put a dressing over the site and give you some spare dressings to take home.

If it is safe for you, you will be advised to eat a light meal afterwards, to prevent any stomach liquid leaking through the hole. The hole should close very quickly afterwards, usually the next day.

If you are having a new tube inserted, the nurses will teach you about the new tube and arrange aftercare with the company or community nurses. You can start using your new tube straight away.

If you need any advice after the procedure, you can contact ward J91 and ask to speak to the enteral feeding nursing team or the gastroenterology doctor on call. The telephone number is below:

J91 **0113 206 9191**

If you are having trouble contacting anyone on this number and your problem is urgent you should attend your nearest A+E.

Notes



What did you think of your care?

Visit: www.leedsth.nhs.uk/patients/support/feedback-complaints/friends-family-test/

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