

# Endoscopy

## Having a Flexible Cystoscopy



**This leaflet provides information about your procedure, why you have been recommended to have a flexible cystoscopy and what you can expect before, during and after the procedure.**

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A flexible cystoscopy is an examination of the lining of the bladder using a thin 'telescope' called a cystoscope. This is passed up the urethra (water pipe) into the bladder.

There are two types of cystoscope –a flexible one and a rigid one.

## The procedure

A flexible cystoscopy is usually performed to discover the cause of a symptom, such as blood in the urine.

The procedure is performed under a local anaesthetic and as a day-case procedure which means you will be able to go home soon afterwards.

## After the procedure

You may experience some discomfort when passing urine, however this should settle within a day or so.

You will be asked to drink extra fluids for 24 hours and you may be given antibiotics to help reduce the risk of infection.

An occasional problem after flexible cystoscopy is a water infection. If you have a temperature, pain, persistent burning or bleeding contact your GP or telephone NHS Direct for medical advice.

## Concerns

If you have any queries regarding the procedure, you should contact the endoscopy unit between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday and the nursing staff will be happy to give you information or advice.

Outside these hours you should contact your own GP, or speak to the accident and emergency department at Bedford Hospital. Alternatively you can contact NHS Direct and nursing staff there should be able to help you with any queries.

## Contact us

**Bedford Hospital: 01234 355122**

**Endoscopy unit: 01234 792269**

**NHS Direct: 0845 4647**

*Written by Helen Drake, endoscopy.*