

Nurse Led aftercare and management of pouch complications

Aims and Objectives

- Role of Nurse led after care
- Types of Complications
- Management of common complications

Post operatively

- New pouch settling down period
- Loose stool initially
- Regular toileting
- Regular use of barrier cream (bum burn)
- None/minimal faecal leaking in the day
- Seepage may occur at night
- You wished you had not had it done

Aftercare

- Diet
- Pouch function and frequency
- Psychological Care
- Sex
- Exercise
- Returning to work
- Pregnancy



DIET

- New pouches
- well balanced diet
- high protein (healing)
- starch (thicken output)
- a little often
- no spice OR NUTS for now!
- Established patients
- Experiment!!!



Psychological Care

- Ongoing support from nurse specialist/patient support groups
- Access to the MDT
- Accept counselling
- Family support
- Social support/financial help



Exersise

- Highly recommended
- When you feel ready
- Resume all types of exercise



Returning to Work

- Enhanced recovery program
- When you feel physically and psychologically ready. Phased return!!
- Support from MDT (letters/explanations)



Sex and Pregnancy

Sex

- Yes you can
- Confidence
- Alternative Positions
- Lubrication
- Support
- Discuss contraception

Pregnancy

- Wait 12 months
- Fertility can be affected
- Function/control can alter
- Normal pregnancy
- Early involvement of obstetrician/gynaecologist (MDT)
- Family/specialist nurse support
- May recommend caesarean

Pouch function and frequency

- Normal pouch function : 6-8 times in 24hrs
- one nocturnal motion
- Loose stool (porridge consistency)
- Ability to defer defaecation
- No faecal leakage in the day, may occur at night

Travel and Holidays

- You will need it!!
- Usual precautions with food/water
- Take thickening agents
- Drink plenty avoid dehydration



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Nurse Led Clinics

- Work alongside medical staff
- Assessment/monitor progress
- Reassurance & provides counselling opportunity
- Early detection of problems
- Early discharge
- Reduction of re-admissions
- Ongoing link

Types of complications

- Early
- Late
- Inflammatory
- Non-Inflammatory

Early/Late Complications

Complications	Symptoms	Management
Pouchitis (Inflammation of the pouch mucosa)	increase in frequency in stools from the norm, burning sensation, abdominal cramping, a sense of urgency before having bowel movement and occasionally bloody stools and fever.	 Offer support and information. Stool sample Pouchoscopy with biopsy. treatment usually a course of antibiotics /probiotics
Cuffitis Inflammation in the cuff above the anal transition zone	Symptoms similar to proctitis – burning, frequency and bloody stool	 Mesalazine suppositories 500mg BD for 6 weeks Predsol suppositories 5mg BD for 6 weeks Pouch revision surgery ????
Stricture	increase in frequency in stools from the norm, watery stools, abdominal cramping, a sense of urgency, reluctance to eat, bloating, incomplete evacuation,	 pouchoscopy/ biopsy/ contrast studies/ Dietary advice Discuss in MDT, consider surgical or radiological dilatation with ongoing self dilatation.
Weak sphincter/leakage	Varies from incontinence to small seepage of feaculant material intermittently or when passing flatus.(often occurs at night) Excoriated bum	 Commence or increase bulking agents(dry fybogel/codeine). Dietary advice including timing of meals, use of continence products, skin care(see skin irritation) Anal manometry/bio feedback

Complications	Symptoms	Management
Skin irritation	Excoriation, burning sensation, erythema, itching, weeping	Identify and treat the cause. Adequate cleansing, advise cotton underwear, use of barrier creams *Questan Cream.
Pouch vaginal Fistula	Passing vaginal flatus/enteric material, sepsis, vaginal soreness/excoriation	Identify cause . Discuss in MDT. Can be managed with seton, can result in defunctioning or excision of pouch.
Early post operative Pelvic sepsis /anastomotic leak	Abdominal pain, fever, tachycardia, evacuation of blood/pus from pouch, abnormal biochemistry/inflammatory	Early detection. May be managed with radiological drainage or surgery. May result in poor long term function or failure
Diarrhoea/increased frequency		Commence or increase bulking agents(dry fybogel/codeine). Dietry advice including timing of meals. Use of dioralyte check biochemistry
Male sexual dysfunction(can be functional or psychological	Erectile/ejaculatory dysfunction	Careful counselling pre operatively. Should be offered sperm banking pre operatively, open discussion and acknowledgement by surgeon/nurse, early referral to urologist/ psychosexual counsellor.
Female sexual dysfunction. Can be functional or psychological	Vaginal dryness, painful intercourse, reduction in fertility	Careful counselling pre operatively, open discussion and acknowledgement by surgeon/nurse. Use of lubricating products, alternative sexual position. Early referral to gynaecologist/psychosexual counsellor

Ileo-anal Pouch Databases

- Patient demographics
- Investigation results
- Treatment details
- Follow-up
- Research

IN SUMMARY

- Most patients have good outcomes
- Importance of MDT
- Continuous access to specialist nurse
- Good support mechanisms
- Always about patient choice

