

# Information for patients and carers

## Discharge Information after an Ascitic Drain Insertion

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consisting of three overlapping, wavy bands of blue color, transitioning from a lighter blue at the top to a darker blue at the bottom.

Patient details

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Date: .....

Medications given: .....

Sedation: YES / NO (if yes, please see separate advice sheet).

## Advice following your procedure

The procedure was carried out under local anaesthetic, the effects of which last approximately 2-3 hours.

It is important you follow these instructions for the next 48 hours:

- Have a responsible adult escort you home and supervise you overnight
- For pain/discomfort take Paracetamol (but avoid Aspirin or Ibuprofen) and follow the advice on the medication. If the pain continues for longer than 24 hours please seek medical attention
- Regularly check your abdomen where you had the drain. Some bruising at the site may occur. This is quite normal. If swelling or bleeding occurs, apply immediate pressure directly to the area for 5 to 10 minutes. Call an ambulance and take your discharge letter with you
- Avoid heavy lifting

## Additional information

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## Future appointment details

Once home, weigh yourself weekly. If you become uncomfortable and have gained 2-3 kilograms in weight, please contact us on the number below for an appointment as you may require further drainage. Approximately 1 litre of fluid = 1 kilogram of weight.

## Contact details

Should you require further advice or information please contact your referring team or you can contact us in Interventional Radiology between 8.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday, on 01772 522343.

## Sources of further information

[www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk)

[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

[www.patient.co.uk](http://www.patient.co.uk)

[www.accessable.co.uk](http://www.accessable.co.uk)

[www.bsir.org](http://www.bsir.org)

**Follow us on social media @lancshospitals**

**Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is not responsible for the content of external internet sites.**

All our patient information leaflets are available on our website for patients to access and download:

[www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets](http://www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets)

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals is a smoke-free site. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on any of our premises, either inside or outside the buildings. Our staff will ask you about your smoking status when you come to hospital and will offer you support and advice about stopping smoking this will include Nicotine Replacement Therapy to help manage your symptoms of withdrawal and the opportunity to speak to a nurse or advisor from the specialist Tobacco and Alcohol Care Team.

If you want to stop smoking, you can also contact Smokefree Lancashire on Freephone **08081962638**

**Please ask a member of staff if you would like help in understanding this information.**

**This information can be made available in large print, audio, Braille and in other languages.**

**Department:** Radiology/Interventional Radiology

**Division:** Diagnostics and Clinical Support

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