

Trial without Catheter / Trial of Void

What is a trial without catheter?

A trial without catheter involves removing a catheter from your bladder to see if you can pass urine without it. Your catheter may have been inserted either after an operation or because you were unable to pass urine or empty your bladder completely after urinating.

What happens on the day of catheter removal?

Catheters are usually removed in the urology clinic or ward area. The day your catheter removal comes out during a clinic appointment please set aside at least three hours. This allows time for your catheter to be removed and undertake a trial of urination to ensure your bladder is working properly.

A nurse will let down the retaining balloon and take the catheter out through your urethra (waterpipe). This can be uncomfortable but not painful.

What will happen once the catheter has been removed?

We will encourage you to fill your bladder slowly by drinking a glass or two every hour, so your bladder fills slowly. This will encourage you to pass urine. Nurses will measure any urine you pass, and scan your bladder to see how much urine you leave behind after you urinate. They will also make sure you are comfortable when you first pass urine.

If you can pass urine and are comfortable, you will be allowed to go home and seen in the clinic for follow-up in a few weeks. If you cannot pass urine, a new catheter may be inserted and the urologist will discuss the follow-up plan with you.

What should I watch out for when I get home?

Drink enough fluid to keep your urine clear for the next few days and avoid getting constipated. If you develop any of the following please contact your urologist

- If cannot urinate or are having difficulty emptying your bladder completely.
- You develop a fever or become unwell
- A full or bloated feeling in your abdomen
- If you experience heavy bleeding
- If you develop a new burning sensation during urination after removal of catheter