

## EXAMINATION UNDER ANAESTHESIA (EUA)

This leaflet has been written to help answer some questions that you may have about your examination under anaesthetic.

### What is an EUA and why is it necessary?

An EUA is an investigation carried out under a general anaesthetic (whilst you are asleep) to obtain more information about your cancer. Once you are asleep your doctor will carry out an internal examination whilst your muscles are more relaxed and it is easier for the doctor to examine you. This may also involve looking into your bladder and bowel and taking some biopsies, if necessary. The aim is to find out the stage (which describes the size and extent) of your cancer.

The investigation may also involve:

**Biopsy** – Small pieces of tissue are removed and sent to the laboratory to be examined under the microscope.

**Cystoscopy** – A small telescope is inserted through your urethra (the tube which drains urine from the bladder) to look inside your bladder. Your doctor will look for anything unusual and may take a biopsy.

**Sigmoidoscopy** – A small telescope is inserted into your rectum (bowel). Your doctor will look for anything unusual and may take a biopsy.

### Consent to treatment

The doctors and nurses will discuss the procedure with you and ask you to sign a consent form giving your permission to carry out this investigation.

### **What are the benefits of this investigation?**

This investigation will give your doctor more information about your cancer and the best way to treat it.

### **Are there any alternatives to this investigation?**

There are no alternatives as this is part of the investigations to stage your cancer. Without accurate staging your cancer cannot be treated effectively.

### **Are there any risks?**

As with any investigation under a general anaesthetic there are risks. These risks will vary depending on which of these investigations you are having.

- Infection: if this occurs you may need to be treated with antibiotics.
- Damage to bowel and bladder: there is a small risk of damage to the bowel or bladder which the doctor will treat at the time.
- Bleeding: slight bleeding may occur but heavy bleeding following this investigation is very rare.

### **What may happen before the investigation?**

If a sigmoidoscopy is part of the investigation, then it may be necessary for you to have an enema before the investigation. This will make you have your bowels open.

### **What will happen after the investigation?**

After your investigation you will wake up in the recovery room before returning to the ward. You will stay on the ward until you are fit enough to go home.

### **When will I feel well enough to go home?**

Most women feel well enough to go home on the same day as the procedure. However, you will still be under the influence of the anaesthetic and should not drive, operate any machinery or sign any legal document for 24 hours. If a biopsy has been taken you may have a small amount of bleeding for a few days. You may resume your normal activities within the next few days.

including going back to work. Ask your doctor when you can resume sexual intercourse as this will vary from person to person.

### **When will I get the results?**

This will vary from person to person. If a biopsy has been taken, the doctor will see you in the outpatient clinic in one to two weeks. While waiting for your results, other investigations may be necessary.

### **Contacts and further information**

We hope that this leaflet answers most of your questions, but if you have any further queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your key worker or gynaecology cancer nurse specialist:

#### **Hospital contact name/ward Telephone no.**

**Fairfield Hospital:** 0161 720 2906

**Leighton Hospital:** 01270 612454  
Gynaecology ward 01270 612199

**Macclesfield Hospital:** 01625 661518  
Ward F2 01625 661002

**North Manchester General Hospital:** 0161 720 2906

**Oldham Hospital:** 0161 778 5670  
Ward F1 0161 627 8857

**Rochdale Hospital:** 0161 778 5670

**Royal Bolton Hospital:** 01204 390003  
Ward M1 01204 390718

**Salford Royal:** 0161 206 5284  
Ward H4 0161 206 5843

**Stepping Hill Hospital:** 0161 419 5519  
Jasmine Suite 0161 419 5508/5509

**St Mary's Hospital:** 0161 276 6394  
Ward 62 0161 276 6105

**Tameside Hospital:** 0161 922 6961  
Ward 12 0161 922 6201

**The Christie:** 0161 446 8235  
Ward 10 0161 446 3860/3862

**Wigan and Leigh Infirmary:**  
Billinge Ward 01942 822073

**Wythenshawe Hospital:** 0161 291 4234/0161 291 5963  
Ward F16 0161 291 2561

We hope that you have found this leaflet helpful. Please feel free to ask us any questions you may have. We have suggested below some questions you may want to ask.

Will you let my GP know about my diagnosis?

If I need chemotherapy or radiotherapy do I have to go to The Christie for this?

Who will I contact if I have questions or concerns, once my treatment has finished?

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