



Radiology department

Abscess drainage

Introduction

This leaflet tells you about the procedure known as abscess drainage and explains what is involved and what the benefits and risks are. It may help you think of things you would like to discuss with your doctor.

What is the drain for?

Your doctors think that you have an abscess (infected fluid). They have asked us to put a tube into the abscess and drain the fluid off.

What to tell the doctor

- If you have any allergies.
- If you have had a previous reaction to intravenous contrast medium (the dye used for some x-rays and CT scanning).
- It is important to tell the doctor or the radiology department **before attending for admission** if you are taking medication to prevent blood clots. Below is a list of some of the medications which are used to thin the blood and help to prevent blood clots.

If you are currently taking any of these medications, please contact your referring doctor or the radiology department on 0161 446 3325 as soon as possible, as these may need to be stopped prior to your procedure. Failure to do so may result in your procedure being postponed.

Apixaban	Dalteparin
Aspirin	Enoxaparin
Clexane	Fragmin
Clopidogrel	Rivaroxaban
Dabigatran	Warfarin

Is there any preparation for my drain?

- You need to have your blood tested either a few days before, or on the day of the drainage. This is just to check that it is safe for us to go ahead.
- You may have to starve before your procedure, you will be advised in advance if this is necessary. You may be given a special drink called Gastrografin which helps to define the bowel if the drainage is taking place in the CT scan room.
- The radiologist will explain the procedure and any possible risks to you and ask you to sign a consent form.

We try to ensure that all our information given to patients is accurate, balanced and based on the most up-to-date scientific evidence. If you would like to have details about the sources used please contact **patient.information@christie.nhs.uk**

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The Christie Patient Information Service
January 2017 - Review January 2020

