



EDINBURGH CANCER CENTRE

WESTERN GENERAL HOSPITAL

**DISCHARGE INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS
FOLLOWING RAYPILOT® INSERTION UNDER
LOCAL ANAESTHETIC**

PRE-IMPLANTATION SCANS

You will attend for a MRI scan in the morning. To ensure optimal images are obtained you will be asked to use a micro-enema prior to the scan. This is to clear out your rectum of gas and faeces. Full instructions for this are in the accompanying leaflet **Rectal Preparation for External Beam Radiotherapy for Prostate Cancer.**

You will also be asked to follow a bladder filling protocol to ensure that your bladder volume remains relatively consistent throughout your planning scans and your radiotherapy treatments. This will involve drinking 3 cups of water 30 minutes prior to the scan taking place.

THE IMPLANTATION PROCEDURE

The implantation will take place under local anaesthetic in a theatre environment.

The first part of the procedure is to implant the gold grain seeds that are required for your radiotherapy treatment. You will be given some local anaesthetic to the area and an ultrasound probe will be inserted into the back passage and the three gold grains will

be implanted. This procedure may be a little uncomfortable but should not be painful and will be similar to the biopsy procedure you will already have had.

You will then change position and the Raypilot® implantation will start. Again an ultrasound probe will be used to guide the implantation.

You will be given more local anaesthetic and the Raypilot® device will be inserted through the perineum (this is the patch of skin between your back passage and your scrotum) to the prostate. You will feel a little bit of pressure but should not be overly painful due to the anaesthesia.

The implantation site may bleed slightly however, this will be covered with a dressing.

FOLLOWING THE IMPLANTATION

The Raypilot® device has a small cable that will then hang from your perineum for the duration of the treatment. It is essential that proper attention is given to keeping the device from being damaged.

The device can be loosely taped to the groin and covered with a cotton pad to avoid irritation or

discomfort. Alternatively, you may find it more comfortable to leave it loose in your underwear.

There may be a small amount of discharge from the site, this is normal and to be expected. If this occurs the use of a thin sanitary pad might be helpful.

The area might be tender so avoid tight fitting underwear; it is preferable to have a shower rather than a bath so the device is not immersed in water. Also, when drying use a soft towel and 'dab' at the area gently rather than rubbing with the towel.

In terms of toilet hygiene it is better that you wipe from front to back following a bowel motion to reduce the transfer of and bacteria to the implantation site.

Your urine may be a light pink colour or you may notice some blood in your urine for a short time, this is to be expected following the procedure.

Avoid constipation by eating plenty of fruit vegetables and fibre. You can ask your GP for medication if needed.

You must refrain from doing anything strenuous for 48 hours following your procedure.

If you develop any of the following symptoms:

- Pain in the area
- Temperature or shivering bouts
- the urine you are passing changes from a light pink colour to dark red or you notice clots in your urine or your bowel motions

Please call the Cancer Treatment Helpline on:
08009177711.

PRE-TREATMENT PLANNING

You will be monitored following the implantation for a period of time and then you will be taken for your treatment planning CT scan.

Again you will be asked to follow the same bladder filling protocol prior to the scan.

After this you will be able to leave the department.

FOLLOWING DEVICE REMOVAL

The Raypilot® device will be removed on your last day of your radiotherapy treatment.

Again you may notice slight discharge following the removal, and a little discomfort at the site for a few days. You will be asked to take an anti-inflammatory tablet and paracetamol regularly for a couple of days following the removal process.

Following the device removal it is important to continue with the advice given previously and to be gentle with the area for a few days. It will tend to heal over quite quickly, but again if you notice anything that you have concerns about please contact us or the Cancer treatment Helpline.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you require any further information regarding your device implantation or the radiotherapy treatment please contact:

Advanced Practitioner Uro-Oncology:

0131 537 2627