

Flexible Cystoscopy (examination of the bladder) in the outpatient clinic

Information for patients

Your consultant has discussed with you that you should have a procedure to have a look into your bladder. This is to check if your bladder looks healthy inside. The procedure involves putting a telescope into your bladder and is called cystoscopy.

The cystoscopy is performed in the Outpatient Clinic. You will not need any special preparation for this examination and you may eat and drink normally both before and afterwards. Just before putting the telescope into your bladder, some local anaesthetic jelly will gently be applied to the tube coming out of your bladder (urethra).

The anaesthetic works quickly, and a small bendy telescope is then passed into your bladder through the urethra. The telescope is not any bigger than a catheter. During the procedure, your bladder will be filled with water to allow us to inspect all around it with ease. If there are any areas in your bladder that do not look quite normal, a very small biopsy may be taken at the same time. After the cystoscopy, you may experience mild discomfort when passing urine. This can be minimised by having plenty to drink and should pass quite quickly.

You will be required to bring or produce a sample of urine on arrival in the clinic. It is unlikely that your procedure will go ahead if we do not have a urine sample or if your urine shows signs of an infection when it is tested. If you feel that you have symptoms of a urine infection, please see your GP before your appointment to have your urine checked.

The procedure takes about 10-15 minutes, and you should be able to go home very soon afterwards. There are no specific restrictions to your activities after the procedure.

If you have any questions or concerns about your appointment, please contact the Gynaecology Waiting List Office on: **01506 523993**.