

Children's Services

Reimplantation of ureter(s)

Why is my child having 'reimplantation of ureter(s)'?

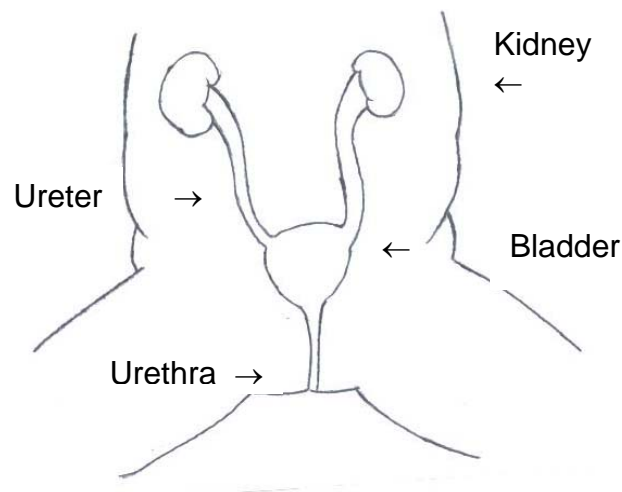
Your child has been diagnosed with a condition which affects the free flow of urine from the kidneys to the bladder. This may be:

- 'Vesico-ureteric reflux' (VUR or 'reflux') which means that urine back tracks up the ureters towards the kidneys.
- 'Megaureter' which is gross dilatation of the ureter.

or

- An obstruction at the point where the ureter joins the bladder.

These problems can cause urine infections which can damage kidneys. Reimplantation of ureters is an operation to alter the position of the ureter as it enters the bladder. The ureter is the tube that takes urine from the kidney into the bladder.



Admission to hospital

Most children will be reviewed 7-14 days prior to admission in our 'pre-operative assessment clinic.' The purpose of the clinic is:

- To ensure you and your child are fully informed.
- To ensure your child's hospital stay is as straight forward and seamless as possible.

If your child has a cold, cough or illness such as chicken pox the operation will need to be postponed to avoid complications. Please telephone us (the telephone number is provided at the end of this leaflet) to discuss, prior to coming to hospital.

You will be asked to bring your child to one of our children's wards, usually early in the morning on the day of surgery. Your child will not be able to eat and drink before the operation. Specific advice about this will be given on the day before your child's surgery when you telephone the ward to confirm bed availability.

When you arrive you will be seen by the nursing staff plus a doctor and an anaesthetist (if not seen by these persons at the preoperative assessment clinic).

A parent will be able to accompany your child when she/he goes to the anaesthetic room to go to sleep for the operation and also be present in the recovery area when she/he wakes. A bed will be provided for a parent to stay next to your child's bed.

The operation

A cut is made along the bikini line so that the bladder can be seen. The position at which the ureter(s) enters the bladder is altered. Your surgeon will discuss this in detail with you before you sign the consent form.

After the operation

Your child will return to the ward with a 'drip' which they will have until (s)he is taking drinks normally again. Your child will also have special tubes to drain their urine; these tubes are called 'stents' and 'suprapubic catheter'. After the operation the urine will be blood stained. After a few days the urine will begin to appear clearer; when this happens the stents will be removed. Then once your child has begun passing urine normally again the 'suprapubic catheter' will be removed. Removing these tubes is a simple procedure which takes place on the ward. A small dressing will be applied to the area after the tubes have been removed.

Going home

Your child will be able to go home when (s)he has had all tubes removed and is passing urine normally. Your child will have painkillers to take at home; your ward nurse will explain these to you.

Your child's wound should be kept clean and dry but your child should not be bathed for seven days after surgery. This is to help prevent a wound infection.

Once at home your child should continue to rest for a few days and avoid strenuous activity (for example, games or swimming) for two weeks. If your child develops a temperature or becomes unwell please contact your Nurse Specialist or GP.

Follow up

Your son/daughter will have an ultrasound approximately six weeks after discharge and a MAG 3 scan after approximately three months. You will then be seen in the outpatient clinic with the results of these scans.

What are the complications/risks of this operation?

Complications are rare. Rare complications include:

- Bleeding (very occasionally a blood transfusion will be required)
- Vesico-ureteric reflux may still occur
- Blockage of the ureter

If you have any queries please contact;

The wards you were on:

Your Nurse Specialist: 01223 586973



We are currently working towards a smoke-free site. Smoking is only permitted in the designated smoking areas.

For advice and support in quitting, contact your GP or the free NHS Stop Smoking helpline on 0800 169 0 169

Help with this leaflet:



If you would like this information in another language, large print or audio format, please ask the department to contact Patient Information: 01223 216032 or

patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk



Document history

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