

## Introduction

Percutaneous Nephrostomy provides relief of urinary tract obstruction.

## The Operation

1. The procedure is performed under local anaesthesia with the patient sedated.
2. The examination involves puncturing the obstructed urinary collecting system using a thin needle, often under X ray or ultrasound guidance.
3. Skin entry site is usually at the loin region and the procedure is usually done with patient in prone position.
4. Contrast medium is injected to outline the collecting system under fluoroscopy (antegrade pyelogram).
5. A drainage catheter is then placed into the collecting system using various exchange catheters and guidewires. The drainage catheter will be connected to a bag for urine drainage.
6. If the urinary tract obstruction can be traversed with guidewire, plastic stent may be introduced for longer term relief of obstruction.
7. After the procedure, the patient will be observed in the ward, and he/she should inform the attending doctor or nurse as soon as possible in case of any problem.

## Preoperative Preparation

1. A written consent is required.
2. Please inform our staff before the examination if the patient thinks she is pregnant
3. Check bleeding parameters and correct if needed
4. Fast for 4-6 hours before examination.
5. Antibiotic cover prior to examination
6. Venous access
7. Check history of allergy and give steroid cover if necessary.

## Common Risks and Complications (not all possible complications are listed)

The procedure carries an overall major complication rate (such as bleeding, wound infection) of 4-6%. The possibility of death is 0.2%.

## Remarks

This is general information only and the list of complications is not exhaustive. Other unforeseen complications may occasionally occur. In special patient groups, the actual risk may be different. For further information please contact your doctor. Evangel Hospital reserves the right to amend this leaflet without prior notice. We welcome suggestions or enquiries on the information provided in this leaflet. Please contact our Healthcare professionals so that we could follow up and make improvement.

## Reference

Medscape: "Percutaneous Nephrostomy" (2022)  
<https://emedicine.medscape.com/article/1821504-overview?form=fpf> (25-07-2023)