

Operation Information

Simple Mastectomy

Introduction

Simple Mastectomy is one of the operation for breast cancer. The involved breast together with the nipple is removed.

Procedure

- The operation is performed under general anaesthesia
- The breast tissue, nipple and areola will be removed.

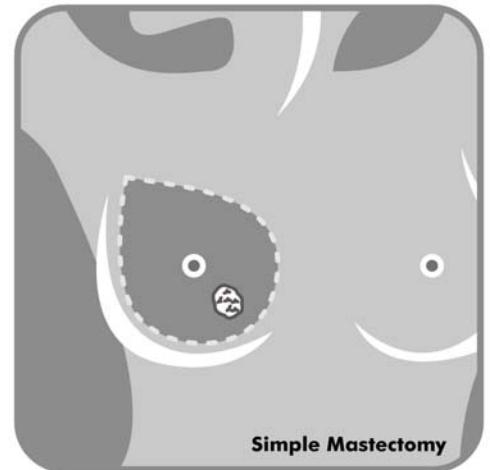
Possible Risks and Complications

1. Wound infection
2. Wound haematoma (may require another operation for removal)
3. Wound effusion (may remove by drainage)
4. Much scars formation

** It is impossible to mention all the possible complications that may happen and the above is only a few important complications which may occur. Before agreeing for the operation, you must acknowledge and accept the fact that no matter how ideal the situation may be, these events may occur. Damage to peripheral organ, severe haemorrhage or leakage after operation, it may require another operation to deal with the complications.

Pre-operation Preparation

1. Your doctor will explain to you the reason, the procedure and the possible complications. Patient will need to sign the consent form.
2. Nursing staff will instruct you to use antiseptic for cleaning the skin and shave axillary hair.
3. No food or drink is allowed six to eight hours before operation.
4. Change to operation attires and removal of loose objects (e.g. dentures, jewellery, contact lens etc).
5. Empty bladder before surgery.



Post-operation Instruction

General

1. You may have sore throat after a general anaesthesia.
2. You may also feel tired, nausea or vomiting. Inform nurse if severe symptoms occur.
3. Inform nurse if analgesics are required.

Wound Care

1. After operation, the wound will be covered by a sterile transparent waterproof dressing. A vacuum wound drain may be present for drainage of blood so as to promote wound healing. Pay special attention to the drain during mobilization.
2. Nurse will empty the drain as per doctor's instruction. The drain can only be removed when the drainage is minimal.
3. Stitches will be taken off 14 days after operation. Please keep the wound clean and dry.
4. Wear loose clothing to avoid pressure on the affected area.

Diet

Resume normal diet after the effects of the anaesthetic worn off.

Activities

1. The day after operation, you can get out of bed and commence the limb exercise (as according to your doctor's instruction). Our staff will instruct and reinforce the exercise as according to your progress. You can have pain killer half hour before exercise if necessary.
2. Early mobilization promotes rapid recovery.
3. Usually go home one week after operation.

Advice on discharge

1. Drainage: The drain can only be removed when the drainage is minimal. Nurse will teach you the drain care if you discharged with the drain.
2. Activities: Resume your daily activities gradually and continue your limb exercise.
3. Prosthesis: Temporary prosthesis can be used in the first 6 weeks after operation. The permanent silicone prosthesis can be fitted when the wound healed completely.
4. Sexual Life: The wound will be healed in three to four weeks and sexual life can be resumed then. Female may have certain degree of psychological disturbance and you are encouraged to communicate with your partner and consult your doctor and nurse whenever necessary.
5. Follow up: Please attend the follow-up as arranged.

Remarks: Should you have any enquiries, please consult your doctor.

Compiled by Union Hospital Consent Form Taskforce

The above information is for reference only, please enquire your physician for details
Our Hospital reserves the RIGHT to amend any information in this leaflet without prior notification