



## Operation Information

### Abscess Incision and Drainage

#### Introduction

An abscess is a collection of pus surrounded by swollen or inflamed tissue which happens when the body tries to control infection. It causes a painful lump and can make the client feels unwell. Abscess Incision and Drainage is an operation to drain out the infected material of an abscess through a cut wound.

#### Outcomes

This operation helps to remove the infected material and promote the area to heal.

#### Procedures

1. The procedure can be performed under general or local anaesthesia.
2. An incision is made in the skin over the abscess.
3. The pus is drained.
4. The abscess cavity is irrigated with saline or antiseptic solution.
5. The cavity may be packed with dressing material to allow any remaining infected material to drain out.
6. A gauze is used to cover the wound.

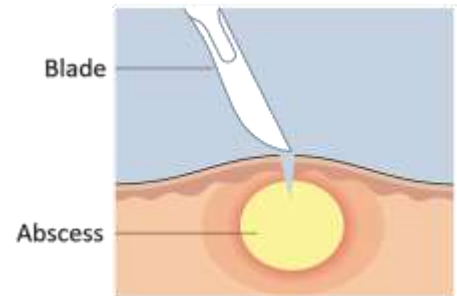
#### Possible Risks and Complications

1. Pain
2. Bleeding
3. Scarring
4. Recurrence

Possible uncommon risk include:

Accidental injury to the surrounding important structures such as blood vessel and nerve.

\*\* The risks listed above are in general terms and the possibility of complications is not exhaustive. Please understand that even though all procedures are carried out with utmost professionalism and care, this does not rule out the possibility of complications arising.



Source:

<https://marmed.com/products/derma-stent/>

## **Pre-operative Preparations**

1. The procedure and possible complications will be explained by the doctor and a consent form must be signed prior to the operation.
2. Please inform the doctor and nurse all your past medical history, previous surgical operations, current medication and any complication with drug or anaesthesia. Please inform doctor if you are taking medications that affect blood coagulation, such as Aspirin, Warfarin, Xarelto or Pradaxa and Chinese medication.
3. An ultrasound or other imaging method may be used if the abscess is large or deep.
4. Routine investigations, such as blood tests, ECG, and chest x-ray may be performed if the operation will be done under general anaesthesia.
5. Good hygiene can prevent surgical wound infection. Please clean up yourself on the day of procedure.
6. No food or drink six hours before operation (If applicable).
7. Please change into a surgical gown after removing all clothing including undergarments, dentures, jewellery and contact lenses.
8. Please empty your bladder before the operation.

## **Post-operative Instructions**

1. Avoid excessive stretching or movement shortly after the operation to prevent wound bleeding.
2. The wound is covered with gauze to absorb any discharge. Inside the gauze, the wound may be packed with a special dressing to prevent re-collection of pus and allow the wound to heal. Keep the dressing clean and dry. Depending on the situation, the doctor and nurse will instruct you on how to care the wound.
3. You can be discharged on the same day after the procedure.

## **Advice on Discharge**

1. You may experience some pain and discomfort after the operation and whilst the wound is healing. Prescribed pain medication may be taken as needed.
2. Avoid strenuous activities and exercises as your doctor's advice or until the wound is healed.
3. Immediately consult your doctor or return to hospital for professional attention in the event of severe wound pain associated with redness and swelling, tenderness, drainage of pus, blood seepage, shivering, high fever over 38°C or 100°F, or any other unusual symptoms.
4. Any follow-up consultations should be attended as scheduled.

Should there be any enquiries or concerns, please consult the attending doctor.

Under the professional care of the doctor, you will gradually recover. We wish you all the best during your treatment and recovery.

If you have any questions after reading the entire leaflet, please write them down in the spaces provided in order for the doctor to further follow-up.

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Compiled by Union Hospital Operating Theatre (OT) Governance Committee

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

