



Jo Schoeman
FRACS, FCS (Urol) SA, MBChB

Pelvic Medicine Centre
St Andrews War Memorial Hospital
Wickham Terrace
Springhill, Brisbane QLD 4000

Ph: 07) 3831-9049
Fax: 07) 3834-4471
E-mail: admin@brisbane-urology.com.au
Emerg: 0403 044 072

Urologist



Dr Jo Schoeman
Specialist Urologist

PATIENT INFORMATION BROCHURE

***DRAINAGE RENAL
ACCESS***

Patient well-being is my first priority!

Drainage Renal Abscess



Percutaneous or open procedure for the drainage of abscess.

Why is it done?

- Patients presenting with low grade persistent fevers, even high fevers requiring admission to High Dependency Unit for septicaemia
- Usually immune compromised patients: Diabetics, Corticosteroid users, Viral immune-deficiency states etc..
- This condition requires urgent drainage.
- The patients needs to be resuscitated first by an emergency team with appropriate fluids and antibiotics and placed in an area where all systems can be supported (HDU)
- As soon as the patient is stable, this abscess needs to be drained, either with open surgery or percutaneous drain placement
- If it is a large pyonephrosis with a non-functioning kidney, a nephrectomy should be considered

How is it done?

- Patients will receive a general anaesthesia.
- Appropriate resuscitation would have been started
- Prophylactic anti-biotics is given.
- An indwelling catheter is placed.
- The correct kidney is identified and marked while you are awake
- If it is a small abscess, an ultrasound guided needle is placed through your back or side into the fluid collection. A guidewire will be placed through the cannula and a drain fed in over the guidewire. All the puss will be drained.
- If it is a large loculated abscess, an incision will be made over the area closest to the skin. The cavity will be opened, drained and rinsed, after which a drain will be placed.
- If you have a non functioning kidney associated with this, your kidney may be removed at the same time. (see open nephrectomy)
- A drain is left post-operatively.

Risks

- This a potentially dangerous condition, which could result in death. It requires urgent management!
- May loose your kidney in serious cases.
- May risk Dialysis when in septic shock
- Wound Infection.
- Prolonged stay in HDU
- Post-operative hernia formations especially associated in the elderly with atrophic abdominal muscles
- NB! Each person is unique and for this reason symptoms vary!

What next?

- You will spend up to 7 or more nights in hospital.
- You may be on life support depending on the degree of sepsis
- You will have intravenous fluids, antibiotics and circulatory supporting drugs being administered. Either a central venous line for monitoring, an arterial line and a peripheral infusion line
- You will have a catheter for that time.
- A drain for 2-3 days.
- Your drain will be removed with minimal drainage present.
- You will a trial without the catheter as soon as you are back in the ward.
- You will be discharged as soon as your renal function has stabilised and you have opened your bowels.
- Allow for 6 weeks for stabilization of symptoms.
- A ward prescription will be issued on your discharge, for your own collection at any pharmacy
- A follow-up appointment will be scheduled for 6 weeks. Remember there is no pathology due to vaporization.
- Don't hesitate to ask Jo if you have any queries
- **DON'T SUFFER IN SILENCE, OR YOU WILL SUFFER ALONE!**