

Seek medical advice from your healthcare team if you experience:

- ▶ Persistent bleeding from the wound.
- ▶ Uncontrolled pain.
- ▶ A high temperature and shaking or feeling as if you have a bad cold which could be a sign of infection.
- ▶ Prolonged swelling, redness or a foul smelling discharge from around your wound site which could indicate localised infection.
- ▶ Difficulty in passing urine.

PLEASE REFER TO THE MAIN BOOKLET FOR FURTHER ADVICE AND ADJUSTING TO LIFE AFTER SURGERY

Important contact numbers

Specialist Nurse contact no:

District Nurse contact no:

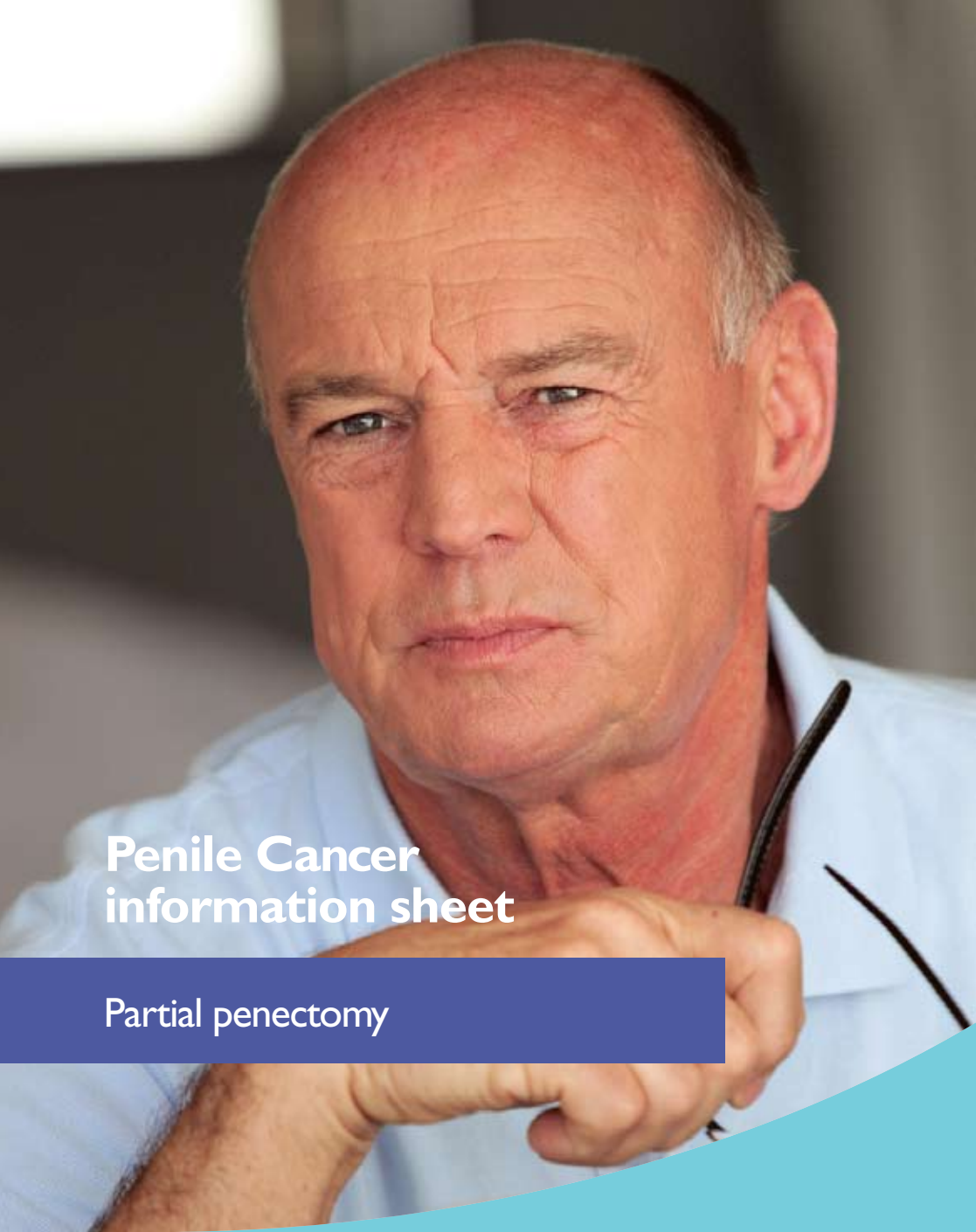
Always make sure that you have the contact details of your specialist team to hand should you need to contact them prior to your follow up appointments.



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Penile Cancer
information sheet

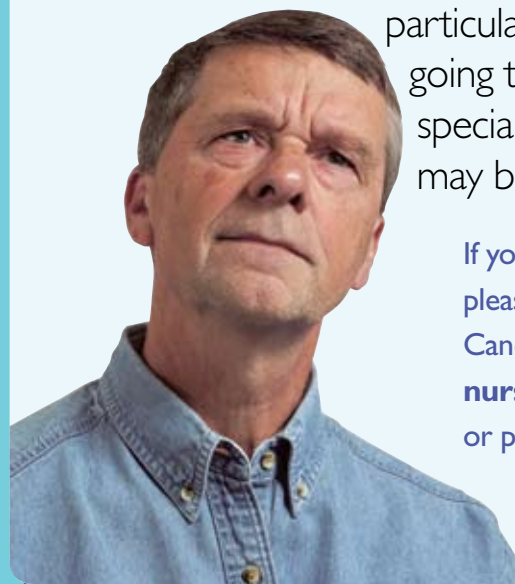
Partial penectomy

For further information on life after treatment, please refer to the main booklet.

Orchid is dedicated to supporting men with a diagnosis of penile cancer. This information sheet describes the

particular treatment that you are going to have along with any special care and tips we think may be helpful.

If you would like to know more, please contact the Orchid Male Cancer Information Nurses; email nurse@orchid-cancer.org.uk or phone 0203 465 6105.



Partial penectomy

This is a surgical procedure to remove part of your penis. During this process a section of skin may be taken from another area of your body to replace some of the tissue removed (skin graft). It is very important that you and your partner discuss this surgery with your specialist health team to ensure that you know exactly what to expect with regard to the appearance of your penis afterwards.

After surgery

- Painkillers will be given on a regular basis for any pain you may have. It is important that you take the painkillers regularly and not just when you have pain. A combination of tablets such as Ibuprofen and Paracetamol work well to reduce pain and inflammation.
- Your penis will have a surgical dressing over it. This will usually be removed after 2 - 3 days. However if you have had a skin graft it will usually be left for up to 10 days. Doctors and nurses will check these dressings and your wound site regularly. Once it is removed you should be able

to have a bath or shower; however you should pat the wound dry with a clean towel or gauze and avoid any material that may leave fibres on the site.

- If you have had a graft taken from your thigh a dressing will be left over it for 2 weeks. A waterproof dressing will usually be applied. You will not need to stay in hospital for this time as it will usually be removed by a District Nurse when you are at home.
- Any stitches will be dissolvable but may take 4 - 6 weeks to fully disperse.
- You will have a urinary catheter (urine drainage tube) which will usually need to remain for up to 5 days. Please see the information on catheter care in the main booklet.
- If you do not have a catheter in when you are discharged it is important to avoid holding the wound site on your penis when you pass urine.
- It is best to avoid sexual intercourse for 8 weeks following surgery.
- You will need a minimum 4 weeks off work.
- A follow up appointment will be made for 2 weeks to check that your wounds are healing satisfactorily.

Follow up

It will usually take 1 - 2 weeks for the results of the tissue that has been removed to be analysed by a specialist tissue doctor and a further follow up appointment will usually be made at around this time, where, any further treatment that you may need will be discussed with you and planned.

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Tips for surgery

- Always ask your specialist exactly what the surgery will involve and what to expect after the operation.
- Plan ahead with regard to time off work and allowing for the healing process.
- Try and maximise your health prior to the operation by eating good quality foods. Foods containing protein are good for the healing process and juices such as orange juice help wounds to heal. It may also be a good idea to take a multivitamin tablet for a while before your operation and a short time after it.
- Try and take steady exercise prior to your operation. Walking until you are slightly out of breath will help your lungs keep healthy which will help them adjust to an anaesthetic.
- Try and get into the habit of moving your feet at rest and not crossing your legs. This will help prevent possible blood clots in your legs while you are perhaps not as mobile as you were prior to the operation.

Urinary Problems

It may take some time after this type of operation for you to pass urine normally again and some men may find that they cannot control their urinary stream or have temporary problems adapting to their new voiding pattern.

For men who have had this type of surgery a simple funnel device may be helpful to prevent urinary spraying (see diagram below). Orchid has heard of several men who have bought small funnels and used them to catch their urinary spray.

However if you find that you spray when urinating and it is bothersome to you there is a funnel that you can get on a prescription from your GP. You place over the penis when urinating and it directs the spray. It is washable and you can take anywhere with you.

Your GP will need to know that this is available from:

Beambridge Medical Ltd
It's called a Male Funnel cost £12.37
Prescribing Code 6-35
Chemist's PIP Code 262-5960
www.beambridgemedical.com
Similar products can be found on **amazon.co.uk**

