

HAEMORRHOIDECTOMY

Information

Haemorrhoids are enlarged blood vessels around the back passage. Dr Edward Yeboah has discussed the signs, symptoms, diagnosis and various treatment options with you, and you have chosen surgical excision of the haemorrhoids as the treatment best for you.

What to Expect

Our preferred method for excision of the haemorrhoids is using an energy device. This cuts and seals the wounds at the same time and sutures are not usually used. This is done under a general anaesthetic and is a day procedure. A rigid sigmoidoscopy (a short camera examination of your anus and rectum) may be done at the same time and your doctor would have discussed this with you.

After surgery, local anaesthetic will be injected at the operation site to give you pain relief. You will also be sent home with pain killers as this operation may be associated with significant pain. A laxative will also be prescribed for you to ensure that you open your bowels frequently. We also routinely prescribe an antibiotic called metronidazole for five days.

Complete healing takes up to about three to four weeks.

Post-Op Instructions

- Bleeding from the back passage is common and may cause spotting of your underwear. Wearing a pad for the first few days is helpful.
- Wash yourself after every bowel motion or have salt water baths. Using baby wipes is a reasonable alternative.
- Take pain relief, laxatives and antibiotics as prescribed.

What to Look Out For

- Severe pain despite pain relief.
- Heavy bleeding.
- Fever above 38 degrees celsius.

If any of the above occur, call Great Southern Specialist Centre or present to the Emergency Department at the Albany Hospital (or the ED nearest to you); your surgeon will be informed.