Patient information and consent to abdomino perineal excision of rectum and anus (APER)

Key messages for patients

- Please read your admission letter carefully. It is important to follow the instructions we give you about not eating or drinking or we may have to postpone or cancel your operation.

- Please read this information carefully, you and your health professional will sign it to document your consent.

- It is important that you bring the consent form with you when you are admitted for surgery. You will have an opportunity to ask any questions from the surgeon or anaesthetist when you are admitted. You may sign the consent form either before you come or when you are admitted.

- Please bring with you all of your medications and its packaging (including inhalers, injections, creams, eye drops, patches, insulin and herbal remedies), a current repeat prescription from your GP, any cards about your treatment and any information that you have been given relevant to your care in hospital, such as x rays or test results.

- Simple painkillers such as paracetamol and ibuprofen may be required after surgery. Simple bowel medication such as senna and lactulose may be required after surgery. It is suggested that you discuss with your pharmacist and have a seven day supply of these medications at home to take as you need according to the instructions.

- Take your medications as normal on the day of the procedure unless you have been specifically told not to take a drug or drugs before or on the day by a member of your medical team. If you have diabetes please ask for specific individual advice to be given on your medication at your pre-operative assessment appointment.

- Please call one of the colorectal specialist sisters on telephone number 01223 217923 if you have any questions or concerns about this procedure or your appointment.

After the procedure we will file the consent form in your medical notes and you may take this information leaflet home with you.

Important things you need to know

Patient choice is an important part of your care. You have the right to change your mind at any time, even after you have given consent and the procedure has started (as long as it is safe and practical to do so). If you are having an anaesthetic you will have the opportunity to discuss this with the anaesthetist, unless the urgency of your treatment prevents this.

We will also only carry out the procedure on your consent form unless, in the opinion of the health professional responsible for your care, a further procedure is needed in order to

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save your life or prevent serious harm to your health. However, there may be procedures you do not wish us to carry out and these can be recorded on the consent form. We are unable to guarantee that a particular person will perform the procedure. However the person undertaking the procedure will have the relevant experience.

All information we hold about you is stored according to the Data Protection Act 1998.

**About abdomino perineal excision of rectum and anus (APER)**

You have been recommended to have an abdomino perineal excision of the rectum as the surgical treatment for your rectal or anal cancer. This procedure will be performed under general anaesthetic.

The rectum is the lowest 15cms of the bowel. It is the place where the stool is normally stored prior to going to the lavatory. APER involves removal of the rectum and anus through both an abdominal incision and an incision in the perineum (where the anus is). After removal of the rectum and anus the end of the remaining bowel is brought out through a small opening in the lower left abdominal wall – this is called a colostomy, and will be permanent. The stool comes out through the colostomy into a disposable plastic stoma bag that attaches to your skin.

You may have been advised by your surgeon and oncologist to have radiotherapy or chemoradiotherapy prior to your surgery.

**Intended benefits**

The aim of the surgery is to remove the cancer completely if possible. For most patients this will provide a cure or significant improvement of their bowel problems. For rectal cancer, surgery gives the best chance of cure and the treatment may need to be combined with chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy. Even in cancer surgery, where certainty of cure is difficult to guarantee, the benefits should be long lasting.

For anal cancer, surgery is required when radiotherapy and chemotherapy alone have not adequately controlled the disease.

**Who will perform my procedure?**

This procedure will be performed by a surgeon with particular skills and training in bowel surgery. This is usually a consultant surgeon or senior specialist registrar, usually under consultant supervision.

**Before your admission**

You will need to attend the pre-assessment clinic, which is usually run by specialist nurses. At this clinic, we will ask for details of your medical history and carry out any necessary clinical examinations and investigations. Please ask us any questions about the procedure, and feel free to discuss any concerns you might have at any time.

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We will ask if you take any tablets or use any other types of medication either prescribed by a doctor or bought over the counter in a pharmacy. Please bring all your medications and any packaging (if available) with you. Please tell the ward staff about all of the medicines you use. If you wish to take your medication yourself (self-medicate), please ask your nurse. Pharmacists visit the wards regularly and can help with any medicine queries. You may have a blood test and ECG performed, and also swabs for MRSA.

Your operation will require a general anaesthetic. We explain about the different types of anaesthesia and post operative pain relief at the end of this leaflet. You will see an anaesthetist before your procedure to discuss the best options for you.

You will be counselled regarding the colostomy (stoma) by the surgeon and stoma care specialist sisters before the procedure. The stoma care sister will also see you on your admission to hospital to mark the stoma site on your abdomen.

Most people who have this type of procedure will need to stay in hospital for about a week after the operation. Those with medical problems or special needs may need to stay in hospital longer.

**Day of surgery admission**

Most patients are admitted on the day of surgery. Immediately prior to the surgery you will have an enema to empty the lower part of your bowel.

**Hair removal before an operation**

If you need hair removal from the surgical site this will be done using an electric hair clipper with a single-use disposable head, after you have been anaesthetised. Please do not shave the hair yourself or use a razor to remove hair, as this can increase the risk of infection. Your healthcare team will be happy to discuss this with you.

It may be necessary during the procedure to shave other areas of your body if appropriate to allow equipment/machines, for example diathermy machines (used to seal blood vessels), to stick to your skin to achieve the best and safest performance.

**During the procedure**

Before your procedure we will give you the necessary anaesthetic - see below for more details. Your anaesthetist will have discussed post-operative pain relief and if you are having an epidural, this may be put in before you are anaesthetised. You will need to have a catheter inserted once you are asleep so we can measure urine output. This will be removed within the first few days after the operation.

There are two parts to the operation. The abdominal part involves making an incision in the abdomen. Through this we can assess the bowel and other organs in the abdominal cavity such as the liver, small intestine and ovaries. The rectum is mobilised (freed from its surrounding attachments) so that it can be safely removed, along with the mesorectum.
which surrounds it. The mesorectum is fatty tissue that carries the blood vessels and lymph glands related to the rectum. This part of the operation may be done laparoscopically (with keyhole surgery) in some situations.

The perineal part of the procedure starts with an incision around the anus. Once the abdominal and perineal parts of the surgery are complete the whole rectum and anus, along with the cancer, are removed.

The colostomy site is prepared and the remaining cut end of the large bowel is brought out through the hole in the abdominal wall to make into the colostomy. The other wounds are then sutured. Usually an absorbable suture is used, but sometimes the sutures in the perineal wound may need to be removed about 10 - 14 days later.

In some circumstances, it may be necessary to take a wide margin of tissue around the anus in order to remove all the disease. If this is the case, your surgeon may advise that a plastic surgeon should be involved to replace this tissue with a muscle flap. This will be discussed with you in detail prior to the surgery if it is necessary.

During surgery, you may lose blood. If you lose a considerable amount of blood your doctor may want to replace the loss with a blood transfusion as significant blood loss can cause you harm. The blood transfusion can involve giving you other blood components such as plasma and platelets which are necessary for blood clotting. Your doctor will only give you a transfusion of blood or blood components during surgery, or recommend for you to have a transfusion after surgery, if you need it.

Compared to other everyday risks the likelihood of getting a serious side effect from a transfusion of blood or blood component is very low. Your doctor can explain to you the benefits and risks from a blood transfusion. Your doctor can also give you information about whether there are suitable alternatives to blood transfusion for your treatment. There is a patient information leaflet for blood transfusion available for you to read.

**After the procedure**

Once your surgery is completed you will usually be transferred to the recovery ward where you will be looked after by specially trained nurses, under the direction of your anaesthetist. The nurses will monitor you closely until the effects of any general anaesthetic have adequately worn off and you are conscious. They will monitor your heart rate, blood pressure and oxygen levels too. You may be given oxygen via a facemask, fluids via your drip and appropriate pain relief until you are comfortable enough to return to your ward. You will also have a catheter in your bladder to drain away urine; this enables careful measurement and avoids the need for you to get out of bed to urinate.

After certain major operations you may be transferred to the intensive care unit (ICU/ITU), high dependency unit (HDU), intermediate dependency area (IDA) or fast track/overnight intensive recovery (OIR). These are areas where you will be monitored much more
closely because of the nature of your operation or because of certain pre-existing health problems that you may have. If your surgeon or anaesthetist believes you should go to one of these areas after your operation, they will tell you and explain to you what you should expect.

If there is not a bed in the necessary unit on the day of your operation, your operation may be postponed as it is important that you have the correct level of care after major surgery.

Enhanced Recovery

Where possible we make use of ‘enhanced recovery’ principles to minimise the impact of surgery on the body and enable a rapid return to normal activity. There are many aspects to this process which includes preoperative, intraoperative and post operative procedures. We aim to minimise pain; perform careful surgery; avoid unnecessary drips, tubes and drains; enable you to eat and drink straight after your operation; encourage early mobilisation to stimulate recovery and allow you to go home soon and safely. We want you to be involved with this and need your help to improve your recovery.

**Eating and drinking.** It is safe to drink and even eat after surgery provided that you feel a desire to do so. You should not eat or drink if it makes you feel sick or bloated.

**Getting about after the procedure.** We will help you to become mobile as soon as possible after the procedure. This helps improve your recovery and reduces the risk of certain complications. You will have daily injections which reduce the chance of blood clotting in your legs (DVT). Typically, you will be helped into a chair the following day. It is important that you only sit up for short periods at a time, for healing and comfort with the perineal incision. You will be given assistance from the nurses and physiotherapist.

**Leaving hospital.** Most people who have this type of procedure will need to stay in hospital for about a week. Sometimes complications arise and these will delay discharge from hospital. When you go home, we would expect you to be mobile, comfortable, managing the colostomy yourself and able to eat safely. The actual time that you stay in hospital will depend on your general health, how quickly you recover from the procedure and your doctor’s opinion.

**Resuming normal activities including work.** Most people who have had this procedure can get back to normal activities within six to eight weeks. Initially you will feel more tired than usual but this should not stop you from doing anything, because activity is beneficial. For driving you need to feel safe and to be able to brake in an emergency – this often takes two to four weeks. When going back to work see if you can start half days or work a bit from home until your energy levels are improved.
Special measures after the procedure: Sometimes, people feel sick after an operation, especially after a general anaesthetic, and might vomit. If you feel sick, please tell a nurse and you will be offered medicine to make you more comfortable.

You will be given more detailed information about any special measures you need to take after the procedure. You will also be given information about things to watch out for that might be early signs of problems (for example infection).

Check-ups and results: Before you leave hospital, we will give you details of when you need to return to see us, for example outpatient clinics or for the results of your surgery. At this time, we can check your progress and discuss with you any further treatment we recommend.

Significant, unavoidable or frequently occurring risks of this procedure

Surgery to remove part of the bowel is a major operation and there are certain risks known to be associated with it. These include the risks of surgery in general, the risks particularly associated with bowel surgery and the risks of anaesthetic described in more detail over the page. The general risks of surgery include problems with the wounds (for example infection), breathing (for example chest infection), heart (for example abnormal rhythm or occasionally a heart attack) and blood clots (for example in the legs or occasionally in the lung). Those specifically related to APER include breakdown of the perineal wound, a transient blockage of the bowel, bleeding, infection in the abdominal cavity and problems with passing urine when the catheter is removed from the bladder. Rarely, further surgery is required to put right such complications. Longer term risks include the development of hernias – in the perineal or abdominal wound, or around the stoma.

Sometimes during the operation, it becomes apparent that the disease is more complicated than was anticipated: the type of surgery may need to be altered to achieve the desired result. This may mean removing more bowel or part of a nearby organ (for example small intestine, bladder or ovary). The consent form you sign will include this possibility. If there is any part of you which you specifically do not wish to be removed, then this must be written clearly on the consent form before signing.

In men, there is a risk of impotence (failure to achieve an erection) in this kind of surgery. There is also a chance of retrograde ejaculation (semen going into the bladder instead of out of the penis during ejaculation). Obviously every effort is made to minimise this risk, but you need to be aware of it. These risks are greater when radiotherapy and surgery are combined.

In women, there is a risk of discomfort or dryness during sexual intercourse and some women no longer experience sexual orgasm. Again, this risk is greater when radiotherapy and surgery are combined.
Most people will not experience any serious complications from their surgery. The risks increase for the elderly or overweight and for those who already have heart, chest or other medical conditions such as diabetes or kidney failure. There is a tiny risk of death. You will be cared for by a skilled team of doctors, nurses and other health care workers, who are involved in this type of surgery on a daily basis. Any problems that arise can be rapidly assessed and appropriate action taken.

Alternative procedures that are available

For most of the conditions where APER is advised, the only alternative to surgery is medical treatment with drugs. Where there is a cancer of the bowel, drug treatment alone will not cure the disease. Occasionally it is possible to remove a rectal cancer from within the back passage without the need for major surgery; this form of surgery is only suitable for a small minority of patients. This option (trans-anal resection or transanal endoscopic microsurgery) will be discussed if appropriate.

If you were to decide against surgery then your cancer would progress, though usually quite slowly over months. This could result in bleeding, the development of a blockage in the bowel and eventually spread of cancer to other parts of the body.

Anaesthesia

Anaesthesia means ‘loss of sensation’. There are three types of anaesthesia: general, regional and local. The type of anaesthesia chosen by your anaesthetist depends on the nature of your surgery as well as your health and fitness. Sometimes different types of anaesthesia are used together.

Before your operation

Before your operation you will meet an anaesthetist who will discuss with you the most appropriate type of anaesthetic for your operation, and pain relief after your surgery. To inform this decision, he/she will need to know about:

- your general health, including previous and current health problems
- whether you or anyone in your family has had problems with anaesthetics
- any medicines or drugs you use
- whether you smoke
- whether you have had any abnormal reactions to any drugs or have any other allergies
- your teeth, whether you wear dentures, or have caps or crowns.

Your anaesthetist may need to listen to your heart and lungs, ask you to open your mouth and move your neck and may review your test results.
Pre-medication
You may be prescribed a ‘premed’ prior to your operation. This a drug or combination of drugs which may be used to make you sleepy and relaxed before surgery, provide pain relief, reduce the risk of you being sick, or have effects specific for the procedure that you are going to have or for any medical conditions that you may have. Not all patients will be given a premed or will require one and the anaesthetist will often use drugs in the operating theatre to produce the same effects.

Moving to the operating room or theatre
You will usually change into a gown before your operation and we will take you to the operating suite. When you arrive in the theatre or anaesthetic room and before starting your anaesthesia, the medical team will perform a check of your name, personal details and confirm the operation you are expecting.

Once that is complete, monitoring devices may be attached to you, such as a blood pressure cuff, heart monitor (ECG) and a monitor to check your oxygen levels (a pulse oximeter). An intravenous line (drip) may be inserted. If a regional anaesthetic is going to be performed, this may be performed at this stage. If you are to have a general anaesthetic, you may be asked to breathe oxygen through a face mask.

General anaesthesia
During general anaesthesia you are put into a state of unconsciousness and you will be unaware of anything during the time of your operation. Your anaesthetist achieves this by giving you a combination of drugs.

While you are unconscious and unaware your anaesthetist remains with you at all times. He or she monitors your condition and administers the right amount of anaesthetic drugs to maintain you at the correct level of unconsciousness for the period of the surgery. Your anaesthetist will be monitoring such factors as heart rate, blood pressure, heart rhythm, body temperature and breathing. He or she will also constantly watch your need for fluid or blood replacement.

Regional anaesthesia
Regional anaesthesia includes epidurals, spinals, caudals or local anaesthetic blocks of the nerves to the limbs or other areas of the body. Local anaesthetic is injected near to nerves, numbing the relevant area and possibly making the affected part of the body difficult or impossible to move for a period of time. Regional anaesthesia may be performed as the sole anaesthetic for your operation, with or without sedation, or with a general anaesthetic. Regional anaesthesia may also be used to provide pain relief after your surgery for hours or even days. Your anaesthetist will discuss the procedure, benefits and risks with you and, if you are to have a general anaesthetic as well, whether the regional anaesthesia will be performed before you are given the general anaesthetic.
Local anaesthesia

In local anaesthesia the local anaesthetic drug is injected into the skin and tissues at the site of the operation. The area of numbness will be restricted and some sensation of pressure may be present, but there should be no pain. Local anaesthesia is used for minor operations such as stitching a cut, but may also be injected around the surgical site to help with pain relief. Usually a local anaesthetic will be given by the doctor doing the operation.

What will I feel like afterwards?

How you will feel will depend on the type of anaesthetic and operation you have had, how much pain relieving medicine you need and your general health.

Most people will feel fine after their operation. Some people may feel dizzy, sick or have general aches and pains. Others may experience some blurred vision, drowsiness, a sore throat, headache or breathing difficulties.

You may have fewer of these effects after local or regional anaesthesia although when the effects of the anaesthesia wear off you may need pain relieving medicines.

What are the risks of anaesthesia?

In modern anaesthesia, serious problems are uncommon. Risks cannot be removed completely, but modern equipment, training and drugs have made it a much safer procedure in recent years. The risk to you as an individual will depend on whether you have any other illness, personal factors (such as smoking or being overweight) or surgery which is complicated, long or performed in an emergency.

Very common (1 in 10 people) and common side effects (1 in 100 people)
Feeling sick and vomiting after surgery
Sore throat
Dizziness, blurred vision
Headache
Bladder problems
Damage to lips or tongue (usually minor)
Itching
Aches, pains and backache
Pain during injection of drugs
Bruising and soreness
Confusion or memory loss

Uncommon side effects and complications (1 in 1000 people)
Chest infection
Muscle pains
Slow breathing (depressed respiration)
Damage to teeth
An existing medical condition getting worse

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Awareness (becoming conscious during your operation)

Rare (1 in 10,000 people) and very rare (1 in 100,000 people) complications
- Damage to the eyes
- Heart attack or stroke
- Serious allergy to drugs
- Nerve damage
- Death
- Equipment failure

Deaths caused by anaesthesia are very rare. There are probably about five deaths for every million anaesthetics in the UK.

For more information about anaesthesia, please visit the Royal College of Anaesthetists’ website: *www.rcoa.ac.uk*

**Pain relief**

Pain relief (analgesia) after major bowel surgery may be provided by regional analgesia, either by an epidural, caudal or a spinal injection (depending upon your particular operation), or by strong pain killers such as morphine, usually administered into the vein by a patient controlled analgesia system. The latter is a system whereby you control the administration of pain killer into your intravenous drip by pressing a button. Local anaesthetic injections around nerves which supply the abdominal wall may also be used e.g TAP blocks.

*Your anaesthetist will discuss pain relief with you prior to surgery, along with the risks and benefits of the techniques.*

The risks of the epidural and spinal pain relief are similar to the risks of regional anaesthesia, as listed above.

Patient information leaflets are available for epidural and pain controlled analgesia from our *website* or can be provided upon request from the pre-admission clinic

Other analgesics may also be administered as injections, tablets or suppositories (if appropriate), particularly after a day or two, when the pain will be decreasing and the epidural or patient controlled analgesia are stopped.

This hospital has an ‘Acute pain team’, who are a team of nurses and anaesthetists who specialise in pain relief after surgery. One of the team may visit you after your surgery to help and the advise the ward team with the management of any pain you may have.
Information and support

You will be given some additional patient information before and after the procedure, for example leaflets that explain what to do after the procedure and what problems to look out for. If you have any questions or anxieties, please feel free to ask a member of staff including the doctor or ward staff.

If you have any further questions, please contact one of the colorectal specialist sisters on telephone number 01223 217923.

Information about important questions on the consent form

1 Creutzfeldt Jakob Disease (‘CJD’)

We must take special measures with hospital instruments if there is a possibility you have been at risk of CJD or variant CJD disease. We therefore ask all patients undergoing any surgical procedure if they have been told that they are at increased risk of either of these forms of CJD. This helps prevent the spread of CJD to the wider public. A positive answer will not stop your procedure taking place, but enables us to plan your operation to minimise any risk of transmission to other patients.

2 Photography, Audio or Visual Recordings

As a leading teaching hospital we take great pride in our research and staff training. We ask for your permission to use images and recordings for your diagnosis and treatment, they will form part of your medical record. We also ask for your permission to use these images for audit and in training medical and other healthcare staff and UK medical students; you do not have to agree and if you prefer not to, this will not affect the care and treatment we provide. We will ask for your separate written permission to use any images or recordings in publications or research.

3 Students in training

Training doctors and other health professionals is essential to the NHS. Your treatment may provide an important opportunity for such training, where necessary under the careful supervision of a registered professional. You may, however, prefer not to take part in the formal training of medical and other students without this affecting your care and treatment.

4 Use of Tissue

As a leading bio-medical research centre and teaching hospital, we may be able to use tissue not needed for your treatment or diagnosis to carry out research, for quality control or to train medical staff for the future. Any such research, or storage or disposal of tissue, will be carried out in accordance with ethical, legal and professional standards. In order to carry out such research we need your consent. Any research will only be carried out if it has received ethical approval from a Research Ethics Committee.
You do not have to agree and if you prefer not to, this will not in any way affect the care and treatment we provide. The leaflet ‘Donating tissue or cells for research’ gives more detailed information. Please ask for a copy.

If you wish to withdraw your consent on the use of tissue (including blood) for research, please contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS), on 01223 216756.

Privacy & Dignity
Same sex bays and bathrooms are offered in all wards except critical care and theatre recovery areas where the use of high-tech equipment and/or specialist one to one care is required.

We are a smoke-free site: smoking will not be allowed anywhere on the hospital site. For advice and support in quitting, contact your GP or the free NHS stop smoking helpline on 0800 169 0 169.

Other formats:
If you would like this information in another language or audio, please contact Interpreting services on telephone: 01223 256998, or email: interpreting@addenbrookes.nhs.uk For Large Print information please contact the patient information team: patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk.

Document history
Authors
Consultant Colorectal & General Surgeon
Wendy Tan
Department
Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 0QQ www.cuh.org.uk
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Abdomino perineal excision of rectum (APER) with permanent colostomy

A Patient’s side  left / right or N/A

Consultant or other health professional responsible for your care

Name and job title:  
☐ Any special needs of the patient (e.g. help with communication)?

Please use ‘Procedure completed’ stamp here on completion:

B Statement of health professional (details of treatment, risks and benefits)

1 I confirm I am a health professional with an appropriate knowledge of the proposed procedure, as specified in the hospital’s consent policy. I have explained the procedure to the patient. In particular, I have explained:

a) the intended benefits of the procedure (please state)

The aim of the surgery is to remove the cancer completely if possible.

b) the possible risks involved. Addenbrooke’s always ensures any risks are minimised. However all procedures carry some risk and I have set out below any significant, unavoidable or frequently occurring risks including those specific to the patient

- Bleeding
- Blood clots in the legs (DVT) or lungs (PE)
- Transient blockage of the bowel (ileus or obstruction)
- Infection in the wound, abdominal cavity, lungs, urine
- Breakdown of the perineal wound
- Problems with passing urine when the catheter is removed from the bladder.
- Disorders of sexual function
- Very small risk of death

c) what the treatment or procedure is likely to involve, the benefits and risks of any available alternative treatments (including no treatment) and any particular concerns of this patient:
Consent Form

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2 The following information leaflet has been provided:
Abdomino perineal excision of rectum and anus (APER)

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or I have offered the patient information about the procedure but this has been declined.

3 This procedure will involve:

- General and/or regional anaesthesia
- Local anaesthesia
- Sedation
- None

Signed (Health professional):

Date: DD/MM/YYYY

Name (PRINT):

Time (24hr): HH:MM

C Consent of patient / person with parental responsibility

I confirm that the risks, benefits and alternatives of this procedure have been discussed with me and that my questions have been answered to my satisfaction and understanding.

Important: please read the patient information about this procedure and then put a tick in the relevant boxes for the following questions:

1 Creutzfeldt Jakob disease (CJD)
Have you ever been notified that you are at risk of CJD or variant CJD for public health purposes? If yes, please inform your health professional.

2 Photography, Audio or Visual Recording

a) I agree to the use of any of the above type of recordings for the purpose of diagnosis and treatment.

b) I agree to unidentified versions of any of the above recordings being used for audit and medical teaching in a healthcare setting.

3 Students in training
I agree to the involvement of medical and other students as part of their formal training.
4 Use of Tissue

a) I agree that tissue (including blood) not needed for my own diagnosis or treatment can be used and stored for ethically approved research which may include ethically approved genetic research.

b) Where additional clinical information is needed for the purposes of ethically approved research, I agree that relevant sections of my medical record may be looked at by researchers or by relevant regulatory authorities. I give permission for these individuals to have access to my records.

☐ Yes ☐ No

I have listed below any procedures that I do not wish to be carried out without further discussion.

I have read and understood the Patient Information about this procedure and the above additional information. I agree to the procedure or treatment.

Signed (Patient): ................................................. Date: __/__/____/____/____
Name of patient (PRINT): ......................................

If signing for a child or young person; delete if not applicable.
I confirm I am a person with parental responsibility for the patient named on this form.
Signed: ............................................................... Date: __/__/____/____/____
Relationship to patient:

If the patient is unable to sign but has indicated his/her consent, a witness should sign below.
Signed (Witness): ............................................... Date: __/__/____/____/____
Name of witness (PRINT): ....................................
Address: 

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Confirmation of consent (where the treatment/procedure has been discussed in advance)
On behalf of the team treating the patient, I have confirmed with the patient that she/he has no further questions and wishes the treatment/procedure to go ahead.

**Signed** (Health professional): .................................................. Date: ...D.D./M.M./Y.Y.Y.Y...

**Name (PRINT):** ................................................................. **Job title:** .................................................................

Please initial to confirm all sections have been completed:

Interpreter’s statement (if appropriate)
I have interpreted the information to the best of my ability, and in a way in which I believe the patient can understand:

**Signed** (Interpreter): .................................................. Date: ...D.D./M.M./Y.Y.Y.Y...

**Name (PRINT):** .................................................................

Or, please note the language line reference ID number:

Withdrawal of patient consent
☐ The patient has withdrawn consent (ask patient to sign and date here)

**Signed** (Patient): .................................................. Date: ...D.D./M.M./Y.Y.Y.Y...

**Signed** (Health professional): .................................................. Date: ...D.D./M.M./Y.Y.Y.Y...

**Name (PRINT):** ................................................................. **Job title:** .................................................................