



NHS

Great Ormond Street
Hospital for Children
NHS Foundation Trust

Having a drain (Easy Read)



Fluid can build up in the body for lots of reasons:

- During an infection (said: inn-feck-shun)
- After an operation
- Due to some illnesses



Fluid can press on the inside of your body, making you feel ill.



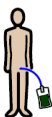
Your doctor needs to take away the fluid so you feel better.



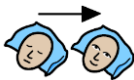
They will do this while you are under general anaesthetic (said: an-ess-thet-ick). You will not be able to feel anything or know what is happening.



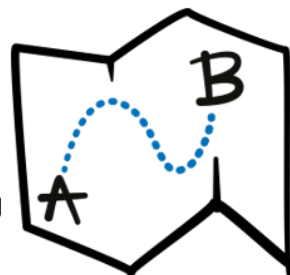
They will check the area full of fluid using a scan.



The doctor will put a tube into the area to drain away the fluid. The tube will be joined to a bag. The fluid will go into the bag.



You can wake up from the anaesthetic in a bed on the ward.





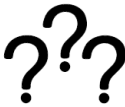
The nurses will check the bag and empty it if needed. They will take away the tube when you do not need it any more.



They will cover up where the tube was with a dressing. You should keep the dressing dry for 2 days.



If you feel sore you can take medicine to take away the pain.



Please ask us if you have any questions.

