

HYDROCELE REPAIR

What is a Hydrocele?

A Hydrocele is a collection of fluid in the space around the testicle, which is surrounded by a sac called the Tunica Vaginalis. Hydroceles can occur at any age and usually for no apparent reason. They often grow slowly over months or years.

If a Hydrocele is not causing any symptoms, it is usually left alone and monitored. If it becomes larger and causing discomfort, treatment may be required.

Hydrocele Repair - How is it performed?

Surgery to repair the Hydrocele is indicated if the Hydrocele is large and causing pain/discomfort. The repair is made through an incision in the scrotum. Depending on the size, the sac may be partially removed or wrapped inside out around the epididymis.

The procedure is performed as a Hospital day case under general anaesthetic and takes approximately 40 minutes.

You cannot drive home after the procedure; you must be collected from hospital.

What to expect following surgery:

Following surgery, the scrotum is often **bruised**, tender and swollen. This is because the raw areas left in place of the Hydrocele, tends to ooze blood internally. This often takes **2 to 4 weeks** to settle.

Rarely the testicle continues to make a lot of fluid and a recurrent Hydrocele re-forms (<10%).

It is advisable to wear tight, and supportive underwear.

We advise to rest for a few days following the procedure.

You may take regular pain relief and the Doctor will discuss options with you.

We recommend no heavy lifting for 2 weeks following the procedure.

We suggest taking 5 days off work following the procedure.

You may commence driving 5 days following the procedure.

A post-operative review with the Doctor will be made about 4 weeks following the procedure for a wound check.

Should you require additional support prior to that time, you are welcome to contact the rooms to organise a sooner appointment.

When to seek help:

Please contact the rooms or see your GP:

- If swelling is worsening.
- The scrotum is more painful.
- If you develop a fever.