Undertake diagnostic and surveillance cystoscopy using a flexible cystoscope



Overview

This standard covers the use of a flexible cystoscope to examine the interior of the bladder and urethra and the identification and recording of normal and abnormal findings. This standard covers the use of flexible cystoscopy for adults only. Paediatric services are excluded. Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 check the environment and equipment to ensure that everything is properly prepared for the procedure, including awareness of the location and availability of emergency equipment
- P2 read the patient's notes, referral letter and relevant investigation results and identify any special instructions, investigations or items for which you need to seek advice prior to the procedure
- P3 accurately identify the patient and introduce yourself and any colleagues present to the patient
- P4 assess the patient's suitability for the procedure, including any changes to health or medication and seek advice or refer if necessary
- P5 explain the procedure and potential complications to the patient and accurately answer any questions at a level and pace that is appropriate to:
 - P5.1 their level of understanding;
 - P5.2 their culture and background;
 - P5.3 their preferred way of communicating;
 - P5.4 their needs
- P6 ensure the patient's informed consent to the procedure has been given and, if not, obtain it
- P7 ensure that pre-procedure criteria have been met:
 - P7.1 urine sample tested for infection, the results interpreted and a sample sent for further analysis, if required;
 - P7.2 pre-procedure medication has been taken as required
- P8 maintain communications with the patient throughout the procedure and respond to any questions or needs
- P9 assist the patient to position themselves correctly for the procedure, respecting their dignity and ensuring their comfort within the constraints of the procedure
- P10 undertake the procedure according to local control of infection guidelines
- P11 clean, identify and examine the urethral orifice and surrounding area and continue with the procedure if appropriate
- P12 check that the patient is ready for the procedure to commence
- P13 insert local anaesthetic gel into urethra
- P14 monitor the patient's condition and needs throughout the procedure
- P15 prepare and introduce the cystoscope into the urethra and advance it gently under direct vision using deflection and inflection of the tip to avoid trauma to the urethral wall and ensure that the correct irrigation fluid is running
- P16 if insertion is difficult, or problems occur, seek advice or decide to terminate the procedure
- P17 fill bladder sufficiently with irrigation fluid to facilitate systematic

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- examination of the internal structure of the bladder and to identify anatomical landmarks using tip deflection and inflection, instrument rotation and gentle advance and withdrawal of the cystoscope
- P18 recognise and record images, if required, of all abnormal lesions or structures observed throughout the examination
- P19 improve visualisation, if necessary, by aspirating fluids from the bladder, ensuring suction has been disconnected prior to withdrawal of cystoscope
- P20 fully withdraw cystoscope maintaining irrigation until withdrawal of cystoscope is almost complete
- P21 reassure patient that the examination has been completed
- P22 dispose of all used equipment
- P23 assess the patient's needs on completion of the procedure, communicate any preliminary findings, where appropriate, and offer support if required
- P24 confirm the details of how the outcome of the examination will be communicated and of any future appointments and/or referrals
- P25 remind the patient of the information and advice they have already been given with regard to lifestyle, side effects and who to contact if problems arise and respond to any questions or requests for further information
- P26 prescribe, or supply on Patient Group Directive, antibiotics if required and provide the patient with information on their administration
- P27 document the observations and outcomes of the procedure and record all decisions made
- P28 recognise the need for immediate management of acute emergencies associated with the procedure and respond appropriately
- P29 maintain own competence by ensuring that local policy/guidelines for audit are adhered to
- P30 recognise when you need help and/or advice and seek this from appropriate sources

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1	national and local	cystoscopy	policies and	guidelines

- K2 national and local infection control policies and guidelines
- K3 national and local policies and guidelines for used equipment and waste handling and disposal
- K4 national and local policies and guidelines for consent to cystoscopy
- K5 national and local policies and guidelines for patient identification
- K6 national and local policies and guidelines for patients' records, their storage and confidentiality of information
- K7 the range of information which should be made available to the patient
- K8 national and local policies and guidelines appertaining to the examination report
- K9 the normal anatomy and physiology, normal variants and anatomical relationships of the lower urinary tract
- K10 the abnormal anatomy, pathology and physiology visible through cystoscopy and the significance of such abnormalities
- K11 the cystoscopy blind areas and techniques for visualising these
- K12 the clinical conditions appropriate for cystoscopy
- K13 the indications and contra-indications for cystoscopy
- K14 the medical terminology relevant to the procedure
- K15 the common pathologies of the lower urinary tract
- K16 the signs and symptoms of the patient's physical and emotional status
- K17 the complications of cystoscopy and remedial strategies
- K18 the range of local anaesthetics for use in cystoscopy, their specifications and possible side effects
- K19 the function, specification and performance characteristics of the equipment to be used in cystoscopy
- K20 the impact of equipment controls on the visual image
- K21 the safe operation of cystoscopy equipment
- K22 the importance of timely equipment fault recognition and local procedures for dealing with these
- K23 equipment capabilities, limitations and routine maintenance
- K24 the preparation of environment and equipment for cystoscopy
- K25 the roles and responsibilities of other team members
- K26 the limits of one's own knowledge and experience and the importance of not operating beyond these
- K27 audit data to reflect on own practice and maintenance of competence in accordance with national and local policies and guidelines

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Additional Information

Links to other NOS

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB6 Assessment and treatment planning

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