

# Patient information

## Bartholin's Cyst

### What is it?

The Bartholin's gland is one of two small mucus- secreting glands, which are located towards the back and to the side of the external (outer) vaginal tissues.

A Bartholin's cyst results from the glands filling up and not draining correctly. The area may appear red, swollen and tender.

The Surgeon will drain the fluid that has collected and remove the cyst. The tissue, which has been removed, will be sent to pathology for examination and the results will be given to you at a later date.

### Following your surgery

Stitches will be dissolvable and do not need to be removed.

Dressings.....

- You may have a quick bath / shower after 24 hours, thereafter daily.
- You may experience some mild to moderate pain, which can be relieved by taking painkillers. It is advisable to have a supply of paracetamol and ibuprofen at home.
- You may experience some bleeding after your operation. To reduce the risk of infection, please use sanitary towels or panty liners **not tampons** until your next period. These should be changed regularly.
- Do not have sexual intercourse for 2 weeks to allow healing to take place.
- It is quite normal for the operation site to feel sensitive and bruising to be present.

Special instructions .....  
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Outpatient appointment.....

Return to work.....

**Contact your GP or GP out-of-hours service:**

If where the cyst was removed becomes:

- Increasingly red, hot and/or produces a discharge - you may have an infection.
- If you bleed heavily
- Abnormally swollen or bruised
- If you have severe pain

If you require any further advice, please contact the Martin Corke Day Surgery Unit on 01284-713050 between 8:00 am and 6:30 pm, Monday to Friday.

Or NHS 111

*If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the website for AccessAble (the new name for DisabledGo) <https://www.accessable.co.uk/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust>*



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