



**Spire** Children and Young  
People's Service

## Patient information

# Paediatric colonoscopy

This leaflet provides some standard information and advice about your child's colonoscopy. However, you should always follow the instructions of your child's consultant.

If you have any unanswered questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask your child's consultant or nurse for more information. It is natural to feel anxious, but knowing what to expect can often help.

The information contained in this leaflet is not intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice nor is it intended to be for medical diagnosis or treatment.

	<b>Children's Ward: 0161 447 6914</b>
	<b>Out of Hours: 0161 447 6677</b>
	<b>info@spiremanchester.com</b>
	<b>www.spiremanchester.com</b>



**Spire**

Manchester Hospital

## What is a colonoscopy?

This is a test which allows your child's consultant to look directly at your child's colon. This is the part of the large intestine, where food goes after it leaves the small intestine.

The procedure is done under a general anaesthetic, which means your child will be asleep throughout and will not feel any pain.

## About the operation

You will be encouraged to stay with your child as far as the anaesthetic room. Once your child is asleep the nurse will escort you back to your room.

A thin, flexible tube with a bright light and a camera at the end, called an endoscope, is put into your child's bottom and from here it goes to their large intestine. The doctor is then able to see the lining of the intestine and take tiny biopsies, if needed.

## After the operation

Your child will be taken from the operating theatre to the recovery room, where they can come round from the anaesthetic under close supervision. Once your child begins

to wake, the nurse will escort you to collect them and return to their room on the ward.

Once on the ward, the nurse will make your child comfortable and continue to observe them. Your child will need to rest on the bed or on your lap until the effects of the anaesthetic have passed.

The consultant will come to see your child and discuss any findings from the operation and follow up care. Once your child has recovered sufficiently, eaten, drank and passed urine they will be able to go home.

## Looking after your child at home

After the operation, your child may feel bloated and have some wind pains, but these usually clear up quite quickly. If any biopsies have been taken it is normal to expect a small amount of bleeding from the bottom.

An out-patient appointment will be made for your child to see the consultant. If any biopsies have been taken the results will be discussed at this appointment, which will usually be 2-3 weeks after the operation.

You should give your child regular pain relief for the first 24 hours and then as often as it seems to be needed. This will be explained to you before you leave the hospital.

## Contact the hospital if your child develops any of the following symptoms:

- Your child develops a fever
- Your child has abdominal pain and pain relief does not seem to help
- If there is heavy bleeding from the bottom

**If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the paediatric team on 0161 447 6914 or main reception on 0161 447 6677.**

**Spire Manchester Hospital does not have an accident and emergency department therefore if your concerns are of a serious nature please seek immediate medical attention from your local accident and emergency department.**