OVERVIEW

This standard covers the use of a flexible cystoscope to visualise and remove ureteric stents.

This standard covers ureteric stent removal using a flexible cystoscope for adults only. Paediatric services are excluded.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

Version No 1

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

You will need to know and understand:

1. the types of ureteric stents, reasons for ureteric stent insertion, and when not to remove
2. the complications of undertaking ureteric stent removal using flexible cystoscopy and the appropriate remedial strategies
3. sensations associated with ureteric stent removal
4. the safe operation of grasping forceps
5. the limits of one’s own knowledge and experience and the importance of not operating beyond these

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

You must be able to do the following:

1. the intended procedure to the patient, its reason and purpose and the possible
1. sensation during the procedure
2. the location and availability of emergency equipment
3. prepare and introduce the cystoscope into the urethra
4. select appropriate grasping forceps and check that they are in working order
5. visualise and locate the ureteric stent to be removed
6. insert grasping forceps through the appropriate channel of the cystoscope and identify the forceps as they enter the bladder and field of vision
7. use the cystoscope controls to orientate the grasping forceps over the ureteric stent to be removed
8. open the jaws of the forceps or instruct assistant to operate attachment controls to open jaws
9. grasp the stent firmly ensuring no mucosa has been gripped and withdraw cystoscope from the bladder under vision. If resistance is encountered abandon the procedure and seek appropriate advice
10. inspect the stent to ensure it is complete and, if required, repeat the cystoscopic examination, seeking advice as necessary
11. recognise the need for the immediate management of acute emergencies associated with the procedure and respond appropriately
12. document the outcome of the procedure and record all decisions made
13. recognise when you need help and/or advice and seek this from appropriate sources

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This National Occupational Standard was developed by Skills for Health.

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

Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments