Bladder Tumor Removal (TURBT/Bladder biopsy)

What's Normal

- You may have a catheter placed with surgery. This is usually temporary. It helps the bladder drain if there is swelling near the outlet and can help blood clots drain better. You can usually remove the catheter yourself a few days after surgery. The nurses who take care of you after surgery will give you more detailed information.

- Expect to see blood in your urine after surgery. It is usually the worst the first few days after surgery, but sometimes it clears and then starts up again a few hours or weeks later when scabs fall off. The amount of blood is less than what it looks like. Drinking a moderate amount of fluid helps keep the blood dilute in the urine. Your body will make more and in general blood in the urine is not cause for alarm. Call or come in if you are making clots that are clogging the catheter.

- Expect for your bladder to be slightly irritated after surgery. This means the urethra may burn or ache. You may have to go to the bathroom more often—even every half hour. This should clear up within 5-7 days. This burning and frequent urination will likely be twice as bad if Mitomycin was instilled in your bladder after surgery. If your symptoms are not better after a reasonable amount of time, you may have an infection. Please email your provider through MyHealthConnection (720-848-0000), call the clinic nurse between 8am and 4:30pm (720-848-0170), or call the Urologist on call on evenings or weekend to discuss antibiotics after 5-7 days.

What’s Important

- Your pathology should be back within 2 weeks of surgery. This tells us your prognosis. You should have an appointment to see your doctor within 2-4 weeks of surgery. If you do not have an appointment call 720-848-0170 to schedule one. If you cannot make an appointment for some reason, email your provider through MyHealthConnection (720-848-0000 for assistance).

When you need to call 911 or go to Emergency Department

- When you have severe new shortness of breath or chest pain
- When you have leg swelling that is new, especially just on one side
- When you can't keep anything down for more than 24 hours
- When you can't urinate