

How do you know the drainage catheter is working?

If you had signs of blocked bile ducts, you should notice those signs slowly going away. You should see dark yellow fluid draining into the collection bag. The fluid might have blood at first. The blood usually clears over time.

How long do you need the drainage catheter?

It depends on why you needed it.

Reason...	Catheter can be in place...
- blockage	as long as the blockage is there
- hole in the duct	until the hole is healed
- before surgery	for days to months after the surgery

It is best to ask your doctor.

When to get help

Call your doctor if you have any of the following:

- Fever above 38.5°C (101°F), aches, chills
- Abdominal pain that does not go away
- Pain or any redness at or around the catheter site
- Signs of a blocked catheter (same as signs bile duct are blocked)
- The catheter falls out

Locations

Abbotsford-Regional Hospital 604-851-4866
Medical Imaging 2nd Floor, Fraser Wing
32900 Marshall Road, Abbotsford

Burnaby Hospital 604-434-4211
Medical Imaging, 3rd Floor, 3935 Kincaid St., Burnaby

Lions Gate Hospital 604-984-5775
Medical Imaging, Lower Level
231 East 15th Street, North Vancouver

Royal Columbian Hospital 604-520-4640
Medical Imaging, Columbia Tower
330 E. Columbia Street, New Westminster

St. Paul's Hospital 604-806-8006
Medical Imaging, 2nd Floor, Providence Building
1081 Burrard Street, Vancouver

Surrey Memorial Hospital 604-588-3308
Medical Imaging, 1st Floor, Lower Level
13750 96th Avenue, Surrey

Vancouver General Hospital 604-875-4111
GI/GU Department, Jim Pattison Pavilion
Station 5, Ground Floor
855 West 12th Avenue, Vancouver
Ext 68612

HealthLinkBC

8-1-1

Call any time you have any questions or concerns.
HealthLinkBC is open 24 hours.

Available in 130 languages. For an interpreter, say your language in English. Wait until an interpreter comes on the phone.

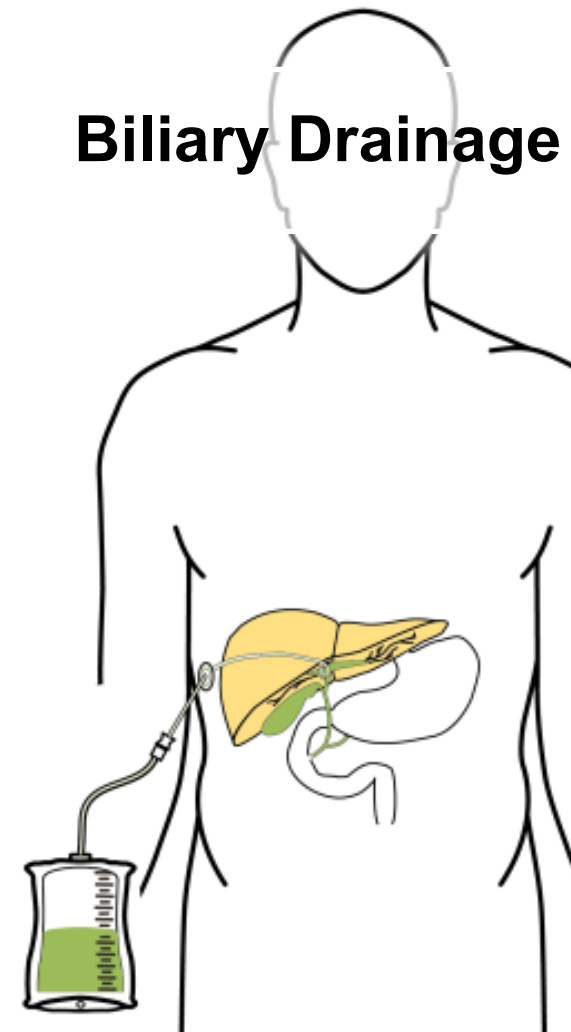
www.fraserhealth.ca – www.vch.ca

This information does not replace the advice given to you by your healthcare provider.

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Biliary Drainage



Follow-up Instructions/Appointment:

What is biliary drainage?

Biliary drainage is a procedure to drain bile from your liver.

Your liver makes bile and is needed to help you digest food. Normally, the bile ducts carry bile from your liver to your bowel, temporarily storing bile in the gallbladder.

This procedure might be done to:

- Unblock a bile duct by removing or fixing the blockage (the most common reason).
- Relieve the signs of a bile build-up by allowing a way for the bile to leave the liver.
- Prevent infection and allow healing when there is a hole in a bile duct causing a leak.
- Prepare for surgery or another procedure on the bile ducts.

Signs that bile ducts are blocked include yellowing of the skin (jaundice), dark urine, light coloured bowel movements, poor appetite, and feeling sick to your stomach.

Who does this procedure?

It is done by an interventional radiologist (a doctor who specializes in using x-ray, fluoroscopy, and ultrasound to guide diagnosis and treatment).

Can I bring a relative or friend?

Yes, they can stay with you before and after the procedure. However, for reasons of safety and regulations, they cannot be in the room during the procedure. We will tell you where family members can wait.

You must arrange for a 'responsible adult' to take you home after this procedure.

What happens before the procedure?

Our Medical Imaging Department contacts you with specific instructions on how to prepare for the procedure.

How long will it take?

It takes between 1 to 2 hours to complete the procedure.

What happens during the procedure?

- A nurse reviews your health history, and checks your blood pressure and heart rate.
- We start an intravenous in one of your arms so we can give pain and other medicines you might need during the procedure.
- We connect you to a monitor that checks your blood pressure, heart rate, and breathing during the procedure.
- The radiologist uses ultrasound and x-ray to locate the liver and bile ducts.
- The radiologist injects numbing medicine to 'freeze' the skin over the area.
- A small cut is made in the skin. Using imaging as a guide, the radiologist inserts a needle into the bile ducts, then guides a drainage catheter into place.
- To check the location of the drainage catheter, x-ray dye is injected through the drainage catheter and x-rays are taken.
- We place a bandage over the drainage catheter site and connect the catheter to a collecting bag.

Does it hurt?

It might sting or burn as the numbing medicine is injected. You should not feel any pain but you might feel some pressure as the drainage catheters is put in place. Tell us if you are having pain so we can give you pain medicine. You might be sore after the catheter is put in, but this usually improves after 7 to 10 days.

What happens afterwards?

We move you to a recovery area for period of time before we move you to your hospital room. Your nurse will let you know when you can eat and how long you need to stay in bed.

The nurse will show you how to care for your drainage catheter and collecting bag. For some people, the collecting bag will not be needed after a few days and the catheter can be capped off.

Recovery time is different for everyone. We cannot predict how long you will be in the hospital.

Are there any risks or complications?

Any time the skin is pierced or cut, there is a chance of infection and bleeding. You are watched closely in the hospital for possible problems.

You can ask questions before you sign the consent form.