



# Variceal Banding

## Patient information Leaflet

October 2018

### **How Does Banding Work ?**

During your Gastroscopy procedure today you have had some bands applied to the veins in your oesophagus. These Veins are called Varices. If one of these veins ruptures, severe bleeding can occur resulting in vomiting of blood or the passing of blood in the form of dark stools. Banding is one way to treat oesophageal varices.

### **How the bands are applied.**

During your procedure a special device is fixed to the scope that contains small rubber bands, this allows for the bands to be placed over each varices.

The bands restrict the blood supply in these veins and they eventually disappear. This does not affect the normal blood supply in the gullet, because the varices are extra veins that have formed as a consequence of there being portal hypertension. When can I eat and drink again?

The local spray used during your procedure will take 30 minutes to wear off after this period you should be able to swallow fluids. If you have sedation for your procedure the recovery period is usually extended. The Nurse will check your swallow by giving you sips of water. To make sure your normal swallowing mechanism has returned.

For the rest of the day consume cool liquids only.

For the first 24 Hours after your procedure take a soft diet only.

After 24 Hours resume to your normal diet as long as you have tolerated the soft diet on the previous day.

### **After your procedure.**

Abdominal pain and chest pain can be common after oesophageal banding, this is due to the tightness of the bands, it can last for a few day after your procedure. It can be relieved by taking Paracetamol .

Difficulty swallowing can be a problem at first but should resolve itself after a few days.

It is also normal to cough up some blood after having oesophageal banding this should also ease within a few days.

Endoscopy Reception 0161 922 4914.

Opening times.  
Endoscopy unit  
Monday 8am-7pm  
Tuesday 8am-7pm  
Wednesday 8am-7pm  
Thursday 8am-7 pm  
Friday 8am-7pm  
Saturday 8am-7pm  
Sunday 8am-7pm

For after care advice please contact below numbers  
8am-7pm Endoscopy Unit 01619226212  
7pm– 8am Out of hours 01619224917

