**Introduction:**

Transurethral resection of bladder tumor (TURBT) involves insertion of a scope through the urethra into the bladder to remove bladder tumors. This operation typically takes less than one hour. Patients are usually discharged home on the same day. Some patients go home with a catheter in the bladder for several days.

TURBT is the first step in the treatment of bladder cancer. Depending on the aggressiveness of the cancer, additional treatments may be recommended after TURBT. For less aggressive cancers, no additional treatment will be necessary unless tumours recur. All patients with bladder cancer require regular cystoscopy so that recurrences can be identified early.

**Side effects and potential risks:**

Common temporary side effects include blood in the urine and irritation of the bladder leading to more frequent urination, urgency, and some mild burning with urination.

Uncommon side effects include difficulty urinating as a result of blood clots stuck in the urethra. In these cases, a catheter needs to be inserted to flush clots out of the bladder. If a bladder perforation occurs during surgery, this will usually heal on its own with a catheter in the bladder for an extended period, but very rarely could require an operation to repair, or result in other problems such as urine collection or abscess in the pelvis.

**Discharge instructions:**

You should avoid heavy lifting and strenuous exercise for a few weeks. Try to stay well hydrated to prevent blood clots in the urine. You will be given a prescription painkiller to take if necessary although many people do not require it.

You may be required to have a catheter in the bladder draining urine to a bag on your leg for a few days following surgery. In these cases, you will be shown how to care for the catheter at home and we will arrange for community nurses to assist with catheter care after discharge - you will be contacted by CCAC/LHIN nurses once you return home.

Patients can typically return to work after a couple of weeks. There are no restrictions with respect to showering/bathing.

If you were instructed to hold blood thinners for the procedure, you can resume these once your urine has been clear for 2 consecutive days.

**Questions?:**

It is important that you are fully informed and have had all your questions answered prior to the procedure. If you have any questions or concerns at any time either before or after the procedure, please discuss with us.