



## What is it?

Biliary drainage is used to treat blocked or leaking bile ducts by placement of a drain into the bile ducts of the liver via the skin.

Biliary stenting may be used to keep the bile duct open and prevent it from closing over, by placing a permanent stent (mesh metal tube) into the bile duct. This is usually done in the context of cancer obstructing the bile ducts.

## Who is it for?

You may have been referred for a biliary drainage or stent because you are either unsuitable for an endoscopic procedure, or a previous endoscopic procedure may have been unsuccessful in placing a stent.

## How is it done?

This procedure can be done either under sedation or general anaesthesia. Your interventional radiologist will use an ultrasound to guide a fine needle into the bile ducts of the liver, using x-ray dye to define the bile duct anatomy. A fine wire is then used to cross the blocked segment of bile duct and if required, a stent may be placed across the blockage. A drain is then placed and the wire removed. The drain is connected to a bag, which will be fastened to your side. The drain will collect bile from the drain and may be capped/closed after a few days. After 1-2 weeks, you will be booked for a second, shorter procedure to remove the drain.

## What are the risks?

Some of the risks involved include:

- pain
- bleeding
- infection
- pancreatitis

Your doctor will discuss these risks with you in detail before your operation.

## How will I feel afterwards

You will rest in the recovery area for 2 hours until the sedation has worn off. You can expect to stay in hospital overnight and most people go home the following day.

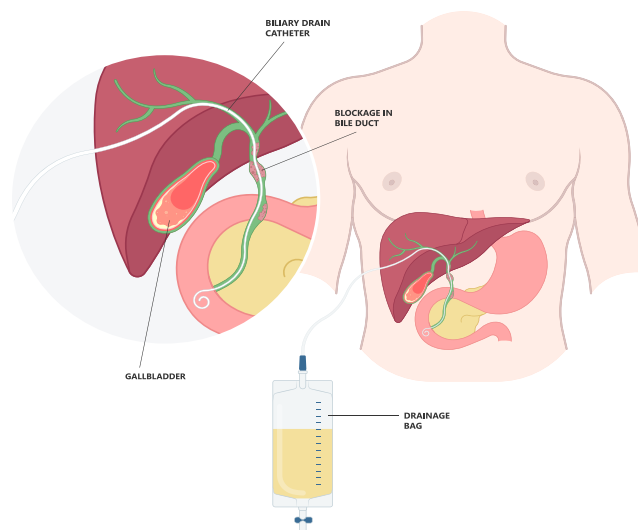
You may feel soreness over the access site or upper abdomen for a day or so afterwards. You will be given pain medication to manage this if required.

Please arrange transport, as you should not drive for 24 hours after an anaesthetic. Any strenuous activity should be avoided for 5 days.

## Follow up

You will be booked for a second procedure to remove the external drain, approximately 1-2 weeks after the initial insertion of the biliary stent. Once the drain is removed, you will not need further follow up from your interventional radiologist.

### PERCUTANEOUS TRANSHEPATIC BILIARY DRAINAGE



0497 052 070

admin@virq.com.au

virq.com.au