

Find out more about Gastro-Oesophageal Reflux Disease

If you are considering GORD Surgery we would like you to be as well informed as possible.

What is the alternate option?

Surgery is designed to control acid reflux and get you off medication. The only other option would be to continue medication to control acid reflux.

Do I need any tests?

We usually perform the following tests before deciding your suitability for laparoscopic fundoplication.

Endoscopy:

Allows inspection of the oesophagus, the stomach and the duodenum (first part of small bowel). This is done with the patient sedated or by anaesthetising back of the throat with local anaesthetic spray. This technique allows your doctor to identify complications of GORD and obtain samples from the gullet and the stomach lining.

Oesophageal Manometry:

This is done (under local anaesthetic spray) by passing a fine probe via the nostril in to the gullet. This test is designed to assess gullet muscular movements.

24 hour Oesophageal pH monitoring:

This test is done by passing a very fine probe in to the gullet, which is left for 24 hours. This test is carried out immediately after the manometry test. The probe is connected to a small machine which looks like a Walkman. This allows to measure acid reflux in to the gullet. You will be asked to return after

24 hours for removal of the probe:

All these tests are carried out as out-patient procedures. These tests help in determining the correct treatment strategy to manage GORD.

What is a Hiatus Hernia?

A Hiatus hernia occurs when part or whole of the stomach protrudes in to the chest through a weakness in the diaphragm. There are two types of Hiatus hernia: sliding or rolling. If you have a hiatus hernia, your surgeon may repair it during fundoplication.

What is the treatment?

The majority who suffer from GORD respond well to life style changes. If symptoms persist long term medication may be required. In some patients, surgery may be recommended because medication and life style changes have not been effective. Surgery may also be indicated in patients who do not wish to take long term medication because of side effects.

Surgery is designed to provide a cure for GORD. The name of the surgery is referred to as a laparoscopic fundoplication. The aim of the surgery is to create an artificial valve to prevent the stomach contents from moving upwards in to the gullet.

Do I need an operation?

You may need an operation to control acid reflux if you have any of the following:

- Oesophagitis despite being on high dose medication
- Persistent symptoms despite being on regular medication prescribed by your doctor
- Side effects from medication
- You do not wish to continue taking long term medication.

We're here to help with any questions you have about any of the procedures we offer.

To find out more about Nu-life Surgery please either:

- Call us on 01483 724833
- Send an email to enquiries.nulifesurgery@gmail.com
- Fill out our general enquiry form
- Make a consultation enquiry