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POLYPECTOMY

What is a polyp?

A polyp is an outgrowth from the lining of the bowel. There are several types and some can be quite large. Some can be cancerous or precancerous. They mostly need removal.

How is a polyp removed?

Most polyps are removed during the colonoscopy with special equipment. Some cannot be removed and will need surgery. If the polyp cannot be removed it can be biopsied. The polyp will be analysed histologically to determine exactly what sort of polyp it is.

Are there any complications?

A polypectomy increases the risk of bleeding and perforation of the colon.

Will anything else need to be done?

Further treatment will depend on the type of polyp. Rarely surgery is required. Mostly further colonoscopies are required. The frequency will be determined by Dr Pathma-Nathan.