

What I Need To Know About My Operation

Whipples Resection

What will happen before I have the operation?



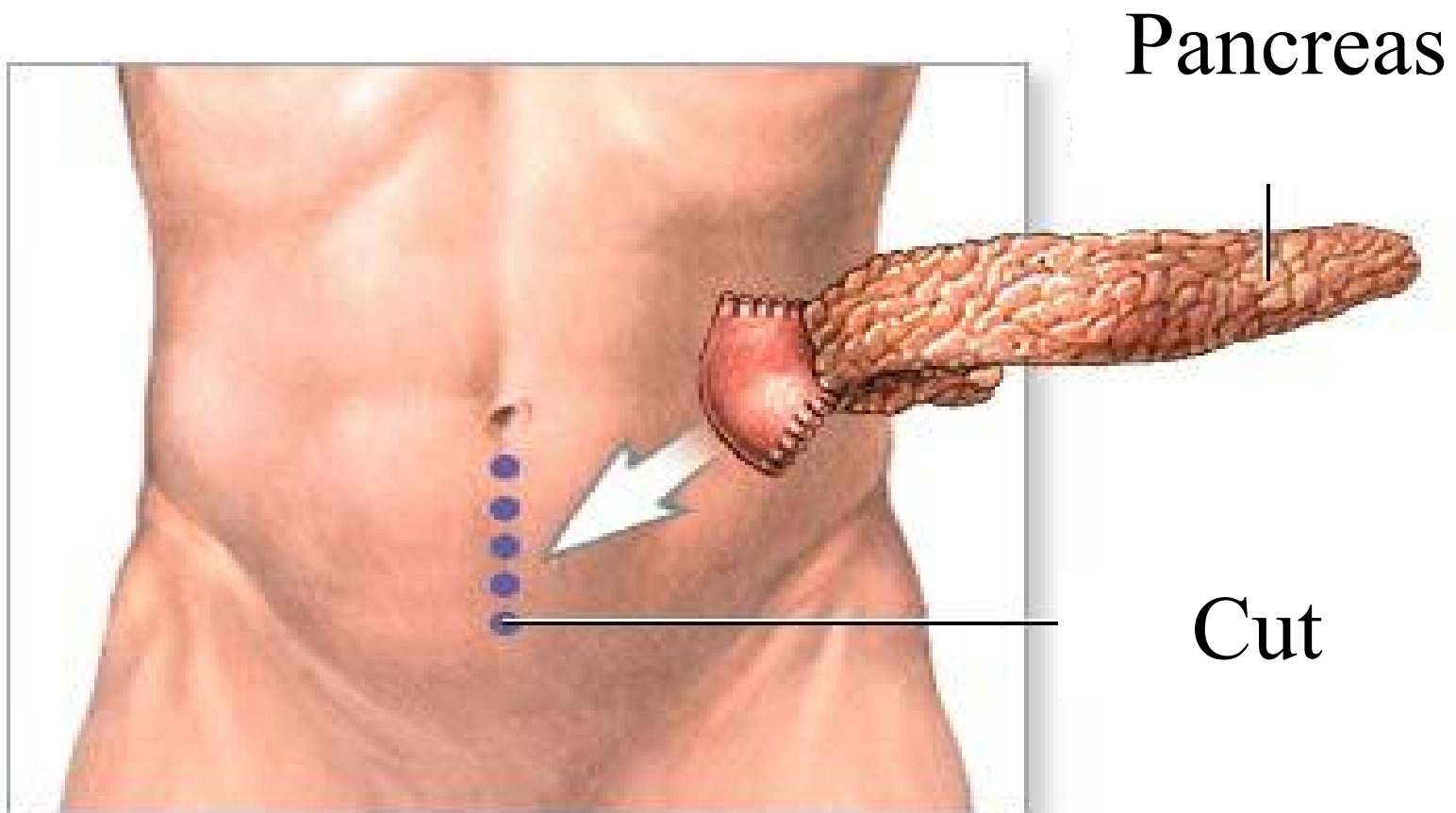
- A Doctor will talk to you to explain about the operation.
- You can talk about any worries you might have.
- The Doctor will ask you if you are taking any tablets.
- The Doctor might want to examine you
- The Doctor will ask you questions about your past health

The Operation



- You will need to stay in hospital for about 2 weeks or maybe a little longer
- You will need a General Anaesthetic. This means you will be asleep during the operation
- You may be given an epidural, this is a needle into your back which will help stop any pain
- You will need to have a tube put into your bladder to take urine (wee) into a bag
- You will have to have a tube up your nose that will keep your stomach empty during and after the operation
- The Surgeon will cut your tummy so he can take away the lump that is blocking your Pancreas





The Operation



- The operation is called Whipples Resection.
- This is a very big operation on the head of the pancreas
- This operation is for people who have a lump or blockage in the pancreas
- Sometimes the lump is cancer but not always. The operation is the only way to find out if the lump is cancer.

After the Operation



- When you wake up your tummy will hurt. The nurse will give you medicine to take away the pain.
- You might have an oxygen mask on your face, this will help you breath
- You will have some plastic tubes in your arms and neck. These are plugged into a machine that checks that you are ok
- You might have to have some more tubes in your tummy to take away water that gets under the cut



After the Operation



- It is very important that the nurse takes your blood pressure after the operation
- Some people feel sick or are sick after the operation but you can have medicine for this
- You cannot eat or drink for a few days after the operation until your insides start to work properly again
- When you are feeling a little bit better you will be helped to get out of bed and move about. This will help you to get better
- You might feel tired for a few months

What are the Risks?



- This is a very serious operation which carries some risks
- 96 people out of 100 people come through the operation well, but sometimes a small number of people die
- Sometimes fluid leaks into your insides this can make you ill and you would have to stay in hospital for longer, and another operation might be needed to mend the damage
- Sometimes people get Diabetes after the operation which needs medicine