

Microlaryngoscopy

This leaflet contains information about your upcoming procedure.

This document should not replace the advice of your relevant health care professional.

What is a Microlaryngoscopy?

This operation looks at your voice box (Larynx) through a metal tube using a microscope. If there is anything abnormal found then this can either be biopsied, removed or ablated with a laser.

What is the operation like?

The operation is performed with you asleep under a general anaesthetic and takes about 15 – 45 minutes. Usually you will go home on the same day. Sometimes the surgeon decides they would prefer you to stay overnight. Before the operation you will see a member of the surgical team and the anaesthetist.

What can go wrong?

A Microlaryngoscopy is a safe procedure. However it is important that you are aware of the risks of this procedure.

General complications

Nausea, vomiting, sore throat and drowsiness may occur as a result of the anaesthetic. Serious drug reactions related to the anaesthetic are very rare.

Specific Complications:

Vocal Cord Damage

- Permanent injury to the vocal cord

Damage to teeth

- Damage to the teeth, lips tongue or jaw can occur such as chipped or loosened teeth, or cuts or bruising around the mouth.

Swelling

- Swelling of the airway can cause significant difficulty with breathing.
- This can be serious but rarely requires a breathing tube to be inserted.



Austin Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land and pays its respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Austin Health celebrates, values and includes people of all backgrounds, genders, sexualities, cultures, bodies and abilities.



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Bleeding

- Significant ongoing bleeding requiring an operation.

Lung infection

- Lung problems or inhaling of saliva/blood can cause pneumonia.



For further information
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