

FICHE-CONSEILS

Préparation à une investigation - Clinique AOC

CH-1 Recurrent Biliary Colic

Subject

Biliary lithiasis, or cholelithiasis, is the formation of stones inside the gallbladder, the organ that stores the bile secreted by the liver. These stones can vary in shape, size and number (there may be one or more) from person to person. They can be as small as a grain of sand or as big as a golf ball. Most of the time, these stones do not cause any symptoms. However, they can block the bile ducts that allow bile to flow to the liver and intestines, especially after a meal. This can cause biliary colic, which is a transient attack of intense abdominal pain when the gallbladder inflates due to an inability to empty itself. It should be noted that the intensity of symptoms does not depend on the size of the stones. Small stones can produce severe pain, while large stones can go unnoticed.



Description

Following your medical consultation, you were referred to the Clinique AOC (Accueil et Orientation Clinique) for a quick surgical examination in accordance with the predetermined medical protocol. The examination includes blood tests and an abdominal ultrasound. If cholelithiasis is present, the nurse will conduct a health assessment and then refer you for a surgical consultation within a set timeframe.

Instructions for users

The Clinique AOC administrative officer will contact you within the time prescribed by your doctor for initial care: A (1-4 business days) or B (4-14 business days). Your exams will be scheduled in the hospital centre in your region – Hull, Gatineau, Buckingham, Maniwaki or Shawville where the exams are available. The administrative officer will inform you of the steps you need to take, the date of your appointment and the necessary preparation for your exams. Make sure you are available within the quick timeframe prescribed by your doctor. You can contact the Clinique AOC at 819-966-6127 Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. during business days.

Additional information

You should seek help at an emergency department if you develop fever, jaundice characterized by yellowish discolouration of the skin or eyes, very intense and sudden pain on the right side of the abdomen that persists for more than six hours or vomiting that is uncontrollable and/or that cannot be relieved with medication (such as Graval for example).

Inspired from Passeport santé at www.passeportsante.net, edited by Dr. Ian Barrette, AOC Medical Coordinator