

Where can I contact if I have any issues?

You should email:

banc@bartshealth.nhs.uk

Or call 0203 594 1799

Where to find us

8th Floor, Colposcopy Suite
Royal London Hospital
Whitechapel Road
London
E1 1BB

Patient Advice and Liaison Service

If you need general information or advice about Trust services, please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 020 3594 2040 or visit www.bartshealth.nhs.uk/pals. Alternatively please contact staff who are providing your care if you require clinical advice.

Large print and other languages

For this leaflet in large print, please speak to your clinical team.

For help interpreting this leaflet in other languages, please ring 020 8223 8934.

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All our patient information leaflets are reviewed every three years.

Patient information

Barts Anal Neoplasia Clinic (BANC)



What is this clinic for?

The Barts Anal Neoplasia Clinic (BANC) is run by nurses and doctors who look after people with changes in their anus (bum). These changes may have been noticed by your doctor and the clinic will help you decide what to do next.

What kind of changes?

The changes seen in your anus are called anal intraepithelial neoplasia (AIN).

This means that skin in the anus has become abnormal due to wart virus (human papillomavirus or HPV) infection. This can be treated in a number of ways, which your doctor will tell you about.

AIN can give you mild, moderate or severe skin changes, and that will determine how often you come back to see us at clinic.

The problem with the abnormal skin is that if left untreated, it could slowly progress into cancer over 10 years or so. If treated, then the risk reduces significantly.

What can I expect from this visit?

The doctor will explain what will happen in the appointment. It will usually involve taking a sample of cells from the anus with a soft brush, this should not be painful. This helps us determine what kind of changes there are. We may then proceed to anoscopy.

What is anoscopy?

Anoscopy is a procedure where the doctor will ask you to lay on a couch so we can take a closer look at your anal canal with a colposcope (a machine that magnifies the inside of your anus). This involves inserting a proctoscope (a small plastic tube) into your anus. We will use acetic acid (like vinegar) to highlight any changes. This may sting a little, but does not hurt. It takes approximately ten minutes to have a thorough look.

What happens next?

The doctor may want to take small samples if they see any changes. We use local anaesthetic to numb the area beforehand. You may have some mild bleeding afterwards—if the bleeding is severe please contact the clinic so we can advise you what to do.

Is it painful?

It should not be painful. If you are experiencing pain, please let the doctor know during the examination.

Will I get treatment?

The treatment will depend on what the doctor sees during the examination. You may have to use a cream called Aldara (imiquimod) to use inside the anal canal for 3-6 months, which we will provide.

We may use a machine to 'burn off' and remove any areas we think need treatment. We usually

ask you to use an anaesthetic cream, which we supply, before to reduce any discomfort. We will let you know before if this is the case.

How will I get my results?

Your results will be sent by letter one month after your examination.

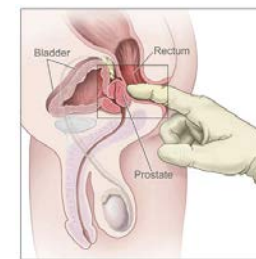
We recommend regular self-examination

We recommend self-examination of your anus every six months or so looking for any rough or irregular patches or anything that doesn't feel normal.

This is how we suggest you examine yourself:



Insert your index finger **(to the first knuckle only)** in the bum when relaxed (in the bath or shower).



Rotate your finger and feel the surface of the inside of your bumhole, it should feel smooth, like the inside of your mouth.

If you feel any rough or irregular patches, let your sexual health doctor or nurse know.