

FEVERS

Mildly elevated temperatures 37-37.5 degrees are not uncommon in the first 24-48 hours after surgery. This may represent the body's response to surgery and reduced lung expansion from lying in bed or pain.

Check the following areas to ensure there are no signs of infection:

- Sites where IV drips or lines may have been placed, usually hands or arm
- Surgical wounds - remove dressings to check for redness or swelling

All surgical cuts may cause a minor inflammatory reaction for 48 to 72 hours, like an insect bite. Increasing redness, warmth, swelling, pain or thick discharge may indicate a wound infection which requires antibiotic treatment.

Some symptoms or signs may indicate a more serious underlying problem so please seek urgent medical attention if you have any of these issues:

- **High temperatures 38 degrees or higher**
- Chills, shivering and shaking (rigors)
- Decreased appetite, nausea or vomiting
- Fatigue or lethargy
- Breathlessness, cough and pain in the rib cage
- Pain and swelling in the calves

Where to find help:

1. Call an ambulance or go to the nearest emergency department
2. Contact the hospital where you had your surgery and ask to speak to the duty nurse manager (available 24 hours a day), or a nurse from the ward you were discharged from
3. Contact Swan Urology and ask for an urgent review with Dr Ooi
4. Contact your General Practitioner and ask for an urgent review