Complications of chest drains

A survey exploring which complications of chest drains are the most frequent or the most troublesome for patients and staff.

As someone who may have experience looking after a chest drain, we would be very grateful if you could consider completing our survey.



Click here to access the survey









Approximately thirty thousand chest drains are inserted in the UK each year, with potentially millions inserted worldwide, and the placement of a chest drain is often a life-saving procedure.

However, even after *successful* insertion, patients with appropriately placed chest drains may still suffer from complications. Estimating complication rates is considered challenging and chest drain complications, such as dislodgement, may be under-reported.

We have developed an anonymous, online survey for both staff and patients, or their relatives, that will help us identify experiences of chest drain complications and rank them according to how significant they are thought to be.

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