

## **Lymph Surgery**

Lymphedema is the accumulation of lymph fluid in the tissue, usually in a limb. This can occur either primarily (without a demonstrable cause); or secondarily, due to tumour surgery or radiation. The basic therapy is compression therapy and lymphatic drainage. In selected cases, surgical treatment may improve lymphedema.

Depending on the severity and cause of lymphedema, either simple liposuction treatment or microsurgical techniques may be used. Microsurgical therapy involves the microsurgical restoration of lymphatic pathways, either to other lymphatic vessels or veins, or lymph node transfer.

### **QUESTIONS YOU MAY WANT TO ASK DURING THE CONSULTATION:**

Do I still need to wear the compression garments  
after surgery?

Can lymphedema deteriorate or recur after  
surgery?

What is the success rate of surgery?

### **INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROCEDURE:**

Duration of case: 1.5 - 3 hours

General Anaesthesia required

Post-operative recovery approximately 2 weeks

No physical activity/sport for approximately  
4 weeks