



Glossary of terms Overactive Bladder Symptoms (OAB)

Anaesthesia (general or local)	Before a procedure you will get medication to make sure that you don't feel pain. Under general anaesthesia you are unconscious and unaware of what is happening to you. Under local anaesthesia you will not feel pain in the part of your body where the procedure is done. Anaesthesia wears off gradually after the procedure.
Bladder	Organ that collects urine from the kidneys (<i>see also</i> Kidneys).
Catheter	A hollow flexible tube to insert or drain fluids from the body. In urology, catheters are generally used to drain urine from the bladder.
Cystoscope	A type of endoscope which is used in the urethra (<i>see also</i> Endoscope, Urethra).
Endoscope	A tube-like instrument to examine the inside of the body. Can be flexible or rigid.
Kidneys	Two bean-shaped organs in the back of the abdomen that filter the blood and produce urine.
LUTS	Lower urinary tract symptoms. A term used for the collection of symptoms which can point to a number of diseases affecting the urinary tract.
Nocturia	Waking up one or more times during the night because of the need to urinate.
Peripheral oedema	Oedema means swelling. Peripheral oedema refers specifically to swelling of the ankles and legs.
Urethra	The tube which carries urine from the bladder and out of the body.
Urgency	The sudden need to urinate.
Urinary frequency	The need to urinate more often than usual, generally more than 8 times a day.
Urinary incontinence	Involuntary loss of urine.
Urinary retention	When you are unable to urinate. This condition can be chronic.

This information was updated in January 2014.

This leaflet is part of EAU Patient Information on OAB. It contains general information about overactive bladder symptoms. If you have any specific questions about your individual medical situation you should consult your doctor or other professional healthcare provider.

This information was produced by the European Association of Urology (EAU). The content of this leaflet is in line with the EAU Guidelines.

You can find this and other information on urological diseases at our website: <http://patients.uroweb.org>

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