

# Endo-SPONGE for treating low rectal anastomotic leak

Information for the public

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[www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)

NICE has assessed Endo-SPONGE to help the NHS decide whether to use this product.

NICE has said that Endo-SPONGE shows potential but there's not enough good-quality evidence to be able to recommend that it's used in the NHS for treating low rectal anastomotic leaks. So NICE has recommended that further research should be done.

Anastomotic leak is a leak between surgical joins inside the body. It is a serious complication that can happen after colorectal surgery. Endo-SPONGE is a sponge that is used for treating anastomotic leaks in the low rectal area where the surgery has been done, to improve drainage of discharge and how well the area heals. It needs to be replaced every 2 to 3 days.

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