

Banding of Haemorrhoids

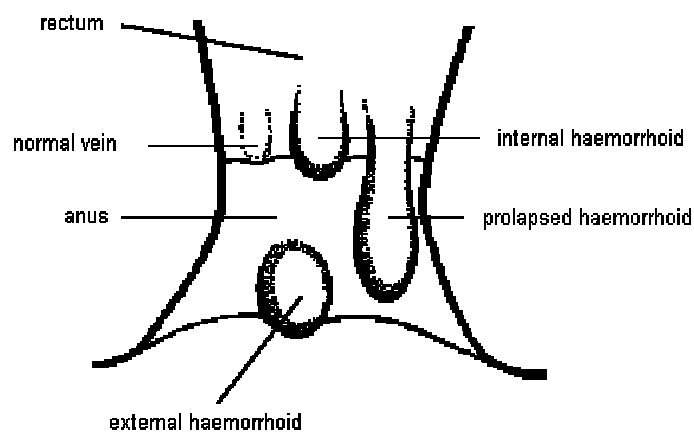
What are they?

Haemorrhoids are often called “piles”. They are enlarged veins within the lower bowel (rectum and anal canal) that have become overfilled with blood.

These can form:

- A. Internally – bulging inside the rectum, under the bowel lining.
- B. Externally – protruding outside the anus, these are covered by skin and may require an operation.

It is common to have both types at the same time.



TREATMENT:

Internal haemorrhoids may be treated by banding in the clinic setting. This involves placing a small rubber band over the main portion of the haemorrhoid to reduce its blood supply.

The band and the haemorrhoid tissue will then separate from the bowel wall about 3-4 days after treatment and will be passed from the rectum, usually with a bowel motion.

POINTS TO REMEMBER:

1. You may have a small amount of bright blood loss just after the procedure and again 3-4 days later.
2. You may feel some discomfort and a feeling of having a “lump” inside (which is the trapped haemorrhoid) until it has passed.
3. A gentle laxative may be required for the first few days after the procedure.
4. Avoid straining too much during bowel movements, drink a lot of fluid and eat plenty of high fibre foods.
5. Not all haemorrhoids are suitable for banding; some may require treatment by an operation.
6. **If you have severe pain, difficulty in passing urine or continue to pass bright red blood from the anus, please see your doctor.**

If you have any problems following your treatment contact **SGS Flinders on 8276 9888**, Monday to Friday 0830 to 1700.

Outside of these hours, please ring Dr J Bessell on **0419 886 490**.