

# **Recovery after Temporary Ileostomy:** Is there a gender perspective?



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## Background:

By using a standardised follow-up form Stoma Care Nurses can focus on ostomy related physical and psychological consequences. The Ostomy Forum is an international project whose purpose is to promote a better quality of life for people living with an ostomy. A History Taking Form and a Follow-up Form have been developed.

#### Method:

Eight countries participated in the study. In outpatient clinics patients were observed, using the standardised Follow-up Form. The study included 221 patients. 26 had a temporary ileostomy;11 female and 15 male.

The data was analysed using SAS, v 9.1.2.

#### Aim:

The aim was to find out if there was a difference between females and males in their recovery after surgery with a temporary ileostomy.

#### Result:

At the first visit after surgery, 73% of the males have social and psychological problems versus 45 % of the females. The last follow up period showed that most of the males were back to normal status. However in the female group 36 % still experienced social and psychological problems.

## Social and Psychological problems 12 10 8 **□** ♀ 11 6 □ ♂ 15 4 2 O 0-2w 3-6w 7-12w 13-26w

## **Conclusion:**

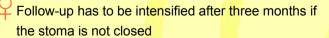
The study indicated that males seem to recover faster than females. The awareness of the gender perspective is important.





### Clinical comments

Follow-up is important in the first period after surgery





∠ Early closure of a temporary ileostomy is recommended.

