

# Effect of pyridostigmine on the duration of post-operative ileus after colorectal surgery.

ACTRN12621000530820

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Status	RECRUITING
Phase	Phase 3
Sponsor	The University of Adelaide
Enrollment	130 participants

## Plain Language Summary

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After bowel surgery, it is very common for the bowel to temporarily stop working — a complication called post-operative ileus. This can leave patients feeling bloated, nauseous, and unable to eat or drink, often extending their hospital stay significantly. Current recovery protocols have limited tools to speed up the return of normal bowel function. This trial tests whether adding a medication called pyridostigmine — which stimulates nerve signals to the gut — to the standard post-surgical recovery protocol can shorten the duration of post-operative ileus.

You may be eligible if you are 18 or older, are scheduled for elective large or small bowel surgery (including reversal of a Hartmann's procedure or stoma formation) at the Central Adelaide Local Health Network, and are able to give consent. Exclusion criteria include a range of heart, neurological, or respiratory conditions, as well as pregnancy.

This is a double-blind randomised controlled trial — neither you nor your doctors will know which treatment you are receiving until the study ends. The main outcome measured is how quickly normal bowel function returns after surgery. If effective, pyridostigmine could become a routine part of enhanced recovery protocols for bowel surgery patients.

## Key Eligibility Criteria

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### Inclusion (4)

- Patients over 18 years of age
- Undergoing treatment from Central Adelaide Local Health Network
- Able to consent
- Undergoing elective large or small bowel resection for any indication or undergoing reversal of Hartmann's or loop ileostomies or formation of stoma procedure will be invited to participate in this study.

### Exclusion (17)

- Under 18 years of age.
- Pregnancy
- ASA  $\geq 4$  due to the higher likelihood or morbidity and mortality, which may confound resulting data.
- Residual active inflammatory bowel disease expected after surgery
- Prolonged QT syndrome ( $>0.43$ sec for males,  $>0.45$  for females)

... and 12 more (see full listing online)

## Locations (2 total)

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The Royal Adelaide Hospital - Adelaide, SA, Australia  
St Andrew's Hospital Inc - Adelaide, SA, Australia

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<https://www.anzctr.org.au/Trial/Registration/TrialReview.aspx?ACTRN=ACTRN12621000530820>

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