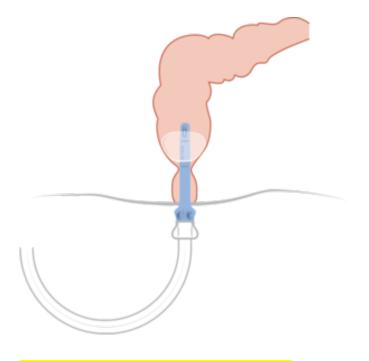


Transanal irrigation, shortened TAI, may also be called retrograde, rectal or anal irrigation, which all refers to a minimal invasive technique to empty the bowel. Retrograde irrigation is a wide term that could be used for all irrigations through the anus and is the opposite of antegrade irrigation that requires surgery to install water directly into the colon.

TAI is an effective technique for emptying the bowel by instilling up to 1500 mL of lukewarm water via the anus into the rectum and all the way to the hepatic flexure (descending and transverse colon). However, the volume of water that needs to be instilled is individual and should be recommended by the clinician and could be changed depending on the result of the irrigation. The water has two purposes; it softens the stool and it causes peristaltic movements of the colon. The water is kept in the bowel either by a cone or, when a rectal catheter is used, a balloon that acts like a plug to keep the water from leaking. The bowel content is expelled together with the water when the balloon is deflated or the cone removed.



Refer to animation? (links under Product solution)

TAI is a maintenance therapy and not a cure. Regular use of TAI prevents bowel leakage and accelerate transit through the colon. With TAI the rectum and distal colon will be efficiently emptied from feces and it takes approximately 2 days until new feces reach the rectum.

There are a lot of clinical evidence proving the benefits of TAI, as well as reducing the clinical symptoms of constipation and fecal incontinence the benefits are:

- increased quality of life
- less time spent on bowel management
- less abdominal bloating
- prevention of incontinence
- preservation of anal skin integrity
- fewer urinary tract infections

Overall, TAI is a simple therapeutic method for management of bowel dysfunction following lack of improvement after diet/lifestyle changes and medications. TAI is a reversible therapy that has been shown to reduce the need of more invasive therapies such as neuromodulation and stoma surgery. When TAI has been successful established for the patient, it is maintained successful in the long term.



At Wellspect we develop innovative continence care solutions that change people's lives. We are committed to inspire our users to build self-confidence and independence as well as good health and well-being. We have been leading the industry for over 30 years with our product brands LoFric<sup>®</sup> and Navina<sup>™</sup>. We create reliable and user-friendly products for bladder and bowel management with as little environmental impact as possible. We passionately strive to become climate neutral and work closely together with users and healthcare professionals who constantly inspire us to improve our products and services in a sustainable way, now and for the future.

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