

## **MK Nerve root anaesthesia**

These instructions are intended for printing. The instructions contain section to be filled in.

### **General Information About the Procedure**

A reservation has been made for you for a nerve root anaesthesia or nerve root blockade. In this procedure the affected nerve root is anesthetized with a long-acting anaesthetic-cortisone mixture. The procedure is performed under MRI guidance.

### **How to prepare for the procedure?**

- Please contact your outpatient clinic as soon as possible if you are taking medicines that affect blood clotting (Marevan, Plavix). Also please contact the outpatient clinic if you are hypersensitive to anaesthetics or contrast media or suspect that you are pregnant.
- On the day of the procedure, you must fast from all food and drink 4 hours before the time of the procedure. You may take your prescribed medications normally.
- As a result of the procedure, it is possible to experience numbness in the limbs, so please ask a relative or friend to escort you home. You are not allowed to drive a car after the procedure.

### **How is the procedure done?**

The scan is done in a well-lit and air-conditioned MRI scanner, which is open at both ends. During the MRI scan, you will have an alarm button and a two-way intercom to communicate with the staff.

During the procedure, you lie on your stomach or back as still as possible. The position will be supported as comfortably as possible using positioning aids.

The MRI device can be quite loud during scanning; therefore you will be given headphones or earplugs during the scan. Breathing instructions may be given through the headphones during the scan. You might be asked to hold your breath for about 10 – 20 seconds. It is possible to listen to music during most scans. You can bring your own CD.

You will be given an IV injection line in case we need to administer medication.

After washing and anesthetizing the skin, the operating doctor inserts a thin needle into the area of the irritated nerve root. Occasionally, the location of the needle is confirmed by MRI scans.

## **What about after the procedure?**

- After the procedure, you can eat and drink normally, unless instructed otherwise by the nursing staff.
- You should be accompanied by a relative or friend going home. Driving a vehicle is prohibited for 12 hours after the procedure.
- If you experience any problems after the procedure, contact the outpatient clinic or Tyks Acute Care (Emergency Department).

The referring unit will receive the results of the procedure.

## **Other considerations**

The overall procedure time varies but may take 1-3 hours, depending on the procedure/treatment. The MRI unit also scans emergency patients, which can lead to changes in the schedule. Please allow plenty of time for your procedure.

The MRI study has no known side effects. However, certain things require attention when planning the scan. Please inform the MRI unit if you have a pacemaker, inner ear prosthesis, medication pump, surgical clips, metallic shards or fragments in your body.

Contraceptive coils and sterilization clips are generally not an obstacle to the MRI examination. Glucose measuring sensors must be removed before the scan. Please mention to your nurse if you are wearing any medication patches.

Please fill in the enclosed information form and bring it with you to the scan.

# MRI Procedure Prerequisite Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID Number/DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Height (cm): \_\_\_\_\_ Weight (kg): \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes**      **No**

**Have you had any surgical operations?**

\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you have any of the following in your body?**

**Yes**      **No**

Cardiac pacemaker or cables

\_\_\_\_\_

Artificial heart valves

\_\_\_\_\_

Nerve stimulator and/or associated cables

\_\_\_\_\_

Middle ear prosthesis or inner ear implants

\_\_\_\_\_

Hearing aids

\_\_\_\_\_

Shunts

\_\_\_\_\_

Stents/coils/aneurysm clips

\_\_\_\_\_

Metal fragments (e.g. from welding, fragmentation weapons)

\_\_\_\_\_

Infusion port and/or medication pumps

\_\_\_\_\_

Artificial joints/orthopaedic screws

\_\_\_\_\_

Dental prostheses

\_\_\_\_\_

Tattoos/body piercings

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any allergies to contrast or anaesthetics?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have reduced kidney function?

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you pregnant?

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you been sterilized?

\_\_\_\_\_