

Trigeminal nerve glycerol anaesthesia

You are coming for trigeminal glycerol anaesthesia. As the procedure requires both preparation and aftercare, you will also have a place reserved for you in the ward.

What is glycerol anaesthesia used for?

The purpose of this anaesthesia is to relieve trigeminal neuralgia. The effect of anaesthesia may last for several years and the procedure may be repeated if necessary.

How to prepare for the procedure?

- You arrive at the hospital on the morning of the procedure.
- Anti-blood clotting medication (Marevan) is stopped 3 days before the procedure, with the consent of the treating physician, to prevent bleeding during the procedure. Other medications affecting the blood circulation are discontinued 7 days before the procedure.
- **On the day of the procedure, you must fast from the morning.**
- Jewellery must be removed from the study area during the scans.

How is the procedure done?

The procedure is performed by a neurosurgeon with the assistance of a Radiographer. If necessary, a Radiologist is also involved in the examination.

The skin of the cheek is numbed. Glycerol is then injected through the skin of the cheek with a thin needle into the nerve ganglion. The injection site is checked with the help of X-rays.

What about after the procedure?

- The operation takes about fifteen minutes. After that, you should sit still in a forward-leaning position for four hours to keep the anaesthetic (glycerol) in place. After that, you can eat and stand up normally.
- You will get home the day after the procedure.