

Treatment of a ganglion cyst

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

Ganglion cyst is a swelled cavity surrounded by thick fibrous tissue and filled with jellylike fluid. It may develop from a bulge of the joint capsule or tendon sheath on the area of the hand or foot. The cyst may disappear by itself or be healed by aspiration or cortisone injection. If the ganglion cyst does not heal and causes symptoms, it is removed surgically.

Procedure

The operation is performed under regional anaesthesia. The cyst may return after the surgery.

Rehabilitation

Swelling of the hand slows down healing and causes pain. The swelling can be reduced by keeping the hand in an elevated position, also during the night, using for example a pillow. Moving the fingers and taking painkillers also help. The hand may be used freely as allowed by the pain. However, the operated area is to be left at rest from any moderate or heavy strain for the duration of the healing of wounds, approximately 2 weeks. Extreme positions of the wrist should be avoided until the sutures are removed if the wound is on the wrist.

Wound care

You may shower after 24 hours. All bandages are removed.

The sutures are removed after 10–14 days at your health Centre, occupational health Centre or health clinic (neuvola) (_____/______). You may go to sauna 24 hours after the removal of the sutures.

Treatment of pain

It is recommended to take painkillers regularly for 1–4 days and after that when necessary:

Paracetamol

Anti-inflammatory

Strong painkiller

Other medication

Follow-up visit is not usually required.

Sick leave is approximately 2 weeks depending on your occupation.

Contacts

If you experience inflammatory symptoms (increasing pain, heavy swelling, warmth, redness, continuous wound discharge) or anything else abnormal occurs, contact your health centre or treating unit.

Day Surgery Unit on working days from 07.00–15.00, telephone 06 213 1552

Your own health Centre or occupational health Centre

Telephone nursing services from 15.00–08.00 on Monday–Thursday and from 14.00–08.00 on Friday and 24 hours a day during weekends and on midweek holidays, telephone 116 117

Vaasa Hospital District • www.vaasankeskussairaala.fi/en • Telephone 06 213 1111

This instruction is intended for our patients who are in care relationship.