

PATIENT STICKER

ANAESTHESIA INFORMATION AND CONSENT FORM

DEAR PATIENT

You are due to undergo an anaesthesia procedure in the near future. The enclosed brochure, «Patient Information Anaesthesia», is intended to help you prepare for the personal discussion with the anaesthetist, who will determine with you the anaesthetic procedure most suitable for the planned operation and least stressful for you. All anaesthetic procedures are very safe today and all vital functions such as heart activity, circulation and breathing are monitored continually. Nevertheless, we feel it is our duty to inform you about the potential risks, however rare they might be. Please note any questions you have at this stage on the back, to make sure that they are answered in the discussion with your anaesthetist.

GENERAL ANAESTHESIA RISKS

discussed

The risk of life-threatening incidents, such as circulatory and respiratory arrest, malignant hyperthermia (anaesthesia-associated fever) etc., even for severely ill patients, is extremely low. Allergic reactions and nerve injury may also occur very rarely. Some temporary unpleasant side-effects that you may experience after the anaesthesia include nausea and vomiting, shivering, feeling cold, itching, bruises, back pain or headache, and difficulties with urination.

GENERAL ANAESTHESIA

Total loss of pain perception and consciousness. **Specific risks:** hoarseness, difficulty in swallowing, aspiration, vocal cord injury, dental injury, particularly for already damaged teeth, awareness while under anaesthesia (very rare).

REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA

SPINAL OR EPIDURAL ANAESTHESIA

Both methods block the nerves leading from the surgical site to the spinal cord. If the effect is insufficient, analgesics or a general anaesthetic may be administered at any time. **Specific risks:** headache, temporary low blood pressure with nausea, urinary retention. Major complications, such as impaired sight or hearing, nerve injury, nerve paralysis or even paraplegia may occur but are extremely rare.

COMBINED ANAESTHESIA

In the event of procedures that are very painful after surgery (e.g. major abdominal or lung operations), a general anaesthesia is often combined with regional or nerve block anaesthesia in order to improve pain treatment after the operation.

PERIPHERAL NERVE BLOCKS

(NERVE BLOCK ANAESTHESIA, INFILTRATION ANAESTHESIA, INTRAVENOUS REGIONAL)

Anaesthesia of the nerves leading from the surgical site. If the effect is insufficient, additional analgesics or a general anaesthetic may be administered. **Specific risks:** venous irritation, bruising, allergic reactions, cramps, nerve damage.

SEDATION, LIGHT SLEEP

Reduction of perception by drugs that induce a superficial sleep and possibly a «memory gap».

Specific risks: depressed breathing, aspiration.

SPECIFIC RISKS OF SPECIAL PROCEDURES

Arterial cannula: arterial occlusion, bleeding.

Central venous catheters: infection, collapsed lungs, bleeding, air embolism, nerve damage.

Urine catheters: infection, subsequent narrowing of the urethra.

Blood transfusion: intolerability reaction, transmission of viral diseases (hepatitis, HIV).

Echocardiography: oesophageal injury.

Do you consent to blood transfusions if necessary?

yes no

DECLARATION OF CONSENT

I have discussed the anaesthetic procedure, including the associated risks, with the anaesthetist and hereby consent to anaesthesiological treatment. I agree that my data may be stored electronically and processed in accordance with statutory regulations. For billing purposes they may be circulated in a controlled manner to third parties who are subject to medical confidentiality. Applicable law and place of jurisdiction: The present terms and conditions of use are governed solely by Swiss law. The exclusive place of jurisdiction is Zurich.

Zurich

Patient

Anaesthetist

