Nerve Biopsy

A. Interpreter / cultural needs

An Interpreter Service is required?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No
If Yes, is a qualified Interpreter present?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No
A Cultural Support Person is required?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No
If Yes, is a Cultural Support Person present?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No

B. Condition and treatment

The doctor has explained that you have the following condition: (Doctor to document in patient’s own words)

This condition requires the following procedure. (Doctor to document - include site and/or side where relevant to the procedure)

This procedure is where a biopsy of a nerve is taken to diagnose a nerve disease.

C. Risks of a nerve biopsy

There are risks and complications with this procedure. They include but are not limited to the following.

Common risks and complications (more than 5%) include:
- Infection, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.

Uncommon risks and complications (1-5%) include:
- Bleeding can occur and may require a return to the operating room. Bleeding is more common if you have been taking blood thinning drugs such as Warfarin, Asprin, Clopidogrel (Plavix or Iscover) or Dipyridamole (Persantin or Asasantin).
- Minor pain, bruising and/or infection from IV cannula site. This may require treatment with antibiotics.
- A result may not be able to be obtained from the biopsy.
- An area of numbness may occur from the area supplied by the nerve. This may be temporary or permanent.
- Increase risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications, and thrombosis.

Rare risks and complications (less than 1%) include:
- Death as a result of this procedure is very rare.

D. Significant risks and procedure options

(Doctor to document - include site and/or side where relevant to the procedure)

E. Risks of not having this procedure

(Doctor to document in space provided. Continue in Medical Record if necessary.)

F. Anaesthetic

This procedure may require an anaesthetic. (Doctor to document type of anaesthetic discussed)
G. Patient consent

I acknowledge that the doctor has explained;

- my medical condition and the proposed procedure, including additional treatment if the doctor finds something unexpected. I understand the risks, including the risks that are specific to me.
- the anaesthetic required for this procedure. I understand the risks, including the risks that are specific to me.
- other relevant procedure/treatment options and their associated risks.
- my prognosis and the risks of not having the procedure.
- that no guarantee has been made that the procedure will improve my condition even though it has been carried out with due professional care.
- the procedure may include a blood transfusion.
- tissues and blood may be removed and could be used for diagnosis or management of my condition, stored and disposed of sensitively by the hospital.
- if immediate life-threatening events happen during the procedure, they will be treated based on my discussions with the doctor or my Acute Resuscitation Plan.
- a doctor other than the consultant may conduct the procedure. I understand this could be a doctor undergoing further training.

I have been given the following Patient Information Sheet/s:

- Local Anaesthetic for Your Procedure
- Nerve Biopsy

I was able to ask questions and raise concerns with the doctor about my condition, the proposed procedure and its risks, and my treatment options. My questions and concerns have been discussed and answered to my satisfaction.

I understand I have the right to change my mind at any time, including after I have signed this form but, preferably following a discussion with my doctor.

I understand that image/s or video footage may be recorded as part of and during my procedure and that these image/s or video/s will assist the doctor to provide appropriate treatment.

On the basis of the above statements,
1. **What is a nerve biopsy?**

   A Nerve Biopsy is where a biopsy of a nerve is taken to diagnose nerve disease.
   
   A small cut is made over the nerve of interest. A small segment of the nerve will be cut and sent to pathology. The cut is closed with stitches or staples.

2. **My anaesthetic**

   This procedure will require a local anaesthetic.
   
   See Local Anaesthetic for Your Procedure information sheet for information about the anaesthetic and the risks involved. If you have any concerns, discuss these with your doctor.
   
   *If you have not been given an information sheet, please ask for one.*

3. **What are the risks of this specific procedure?**

   There are risks and complications with this procedure. They include but are not limited to the following.

   **Common risks and complications (more than 5%)** include:
   - Infection, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.

   **Uncommon risks and complications (1-5%)** include:
   - Bleeding can occur and may require a return to the operating room. Bleeding is more common if you have been taking blood thinning drugs such as Warfarin, Asprin, Clopidogrel (Plavix or Icover) or Dipyridamole (Persantin or Asasantin).
   - Minor pain, bruising and/or infection from IV cannula site. This may require treatment with antibiotics.
   - A result may not be able to be obtained from the biopsy.
   - An area of numbness may occur from the area supplied by the nerve. This may be temporary or permanent.
   - Increase risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications, and thrombosis.

   **Rare risks and complications (less than 1%)** include:
   - Death as a result of this procedure is very rare.