Stapedectomy

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)

The following will be performed:

Tymanotomy and Stapedectomy – an operation to explore the middle ear to confirm the diagnosis. Part of the fixed bone will then be removed and replaced with an artificial piston which will restore movement to the chain of bones in the middle ear.

C. Risks of a Stapedectomy

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

General risks:

• Infection can occur, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.
• Bleeding could 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).
• Small areas of the lung can collapse, increasing the risk of chest infection. This may need antibiotics and physiotherapy.
• Increased risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications, and thrombosis.
• Heart attack or stroke could occur due to the strain on the heart.
• Blood clot in the leg (DVT) causing pain and swelling. In rare cases part of the clot may break off and go to the lungs.
• Death as a result of this procedure is possible.

Specific risks:

• Total loss of hearing (complete and irreversible loss of hearing in the operated ear i.e. dead ear). This is usually due to complications arising during the course of the operation but may also occur during the early or late post-op period despite the operation being uneventful.
• Partial loss of hearing where the hearing is worse after the operation. This is usually due to complications arising during the course of the operation but may also occur during the early or late post-op period despite the operation being uneventful.
• Failure to improve hearing, where there is no improvement in hearing after the operation. This may occur despite the operation being uneventful but may also be due to another disease process involving the bones in the middle ear.
• Altered sensation of taste. The nerve carrying taste fibres to the same side of the tongue may need to be divided (cut) or stretched to obtain access to the stapes bone resulting in an altered taste which may be temporary or permanent.
• Dizziness or imbalance may occur and may be temporary or permanent.
• Facial nerve palsy. Temporary or permanent paralysis of the muscles of the face may rarely occur.
• Perforation of the tympanic membrane (ear drum) may rarely occur and may require further surgery to repair the perforation.

D. Significant risks and procedure options

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

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:

☐ About Your Anaesthetic
☐ Stapedectomy

• 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 Stapedectomy?
Tympanotomy is a surgical procedure performed to drain an infected middle ear.
Stapedectomy is a surgical procedure to remove part of the fixed bone in the middle ear and then replace it with an artificial piston which will restore movement to the chain of bones in the middle ear.

2. My anaesthetic
This procedure will require an anaesthetic.
See About Your Anaesthetic 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.

General risks:
- Infection can occur, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.
- Bleeding could 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, Aspirin, Clopidogrel (Plavix or Iscover) or Dipyridamole (Persantin or Asasantin).
- Small areas of the lung can collapse, increasing the risk of chest infection. This may need antibiotics and physiotherapy.
- Increased risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications, and thrombosis.
- Heart attack or stroke could occur due to the strain on the heart.
- Blood clot in the leg (DVT) causing pain and swelling. In rare cases part of the clot may break off and go to the lungs.
- Death as a result of this procedure is possible.

Specific risks:
- Total loss of hearing (complete and irreversible loss of hearing in the operated ear ie. dead ear). This is usually due to complications arising during the course of the operation but may also occur during the early or late post-op period despite the operation being uneventful.
- Partial loss of hearing where the hearing is worse after the operation. This is usually due to complications arising during the course of the operation but may also occur during the early or late post-op period despite the operation being uneventful.
- Failure to improve hearing, where there is no improvement in hearing after the operation. This may occur despite the operation being uneventful but may also be due to another disease process involving the bones in the middle ear.
- Altered sensation of taste. The nerve carrying taste fibres to the same side of the tongue may need to be divided (cut) or stretched to obtain access to the stapes bone resulting in an altered taste which may be temporary or permanent.
- Ringing in the ear (tinnitus). Otosclerosis is often associated with tinnitus. In some cases the tinnitus may be worse after surgery and may be temporary or permanent.
- Dizziness or imbalance may occur and may be temporary or permanent.
- Facial nerve palsy. Temporary or permanent paralysis of the muscles of the face may rarely occur.
- Perforation of the tympanic membrane (ear drum) may rarely occur and may require further surgery to repair the perforation.

Notes to talk to my doctor about: