



# Carpal Tunnel Decompression

Facility:

(Affix identification label here)

URN:

Family name:

Given name(s):

Address:

Date of birth:

Sex:  M  F  I

## 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)*

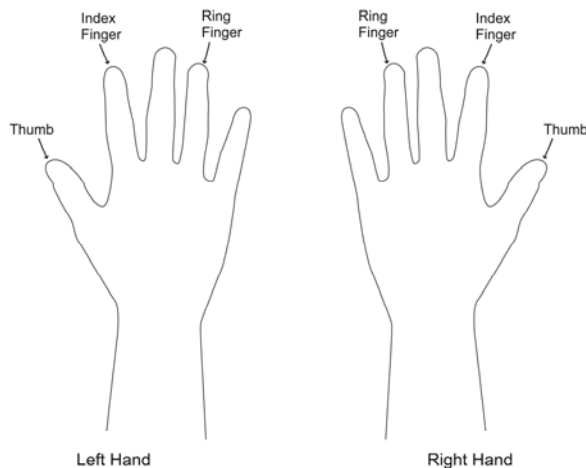
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This condition requires the following procedure. *(Doctor to document - include site and/or side where relevant to the procedure)*

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Left wrist  Yes  No

Right wrist  Yes  No

The following will be performed:

A Carpal tunnel decompression is done through a cut (7 - 10 cm) along the underside of the wrist. The nerve is found and will be freed by removing the tissue from it.

## C. Risks of a carpal tunnel decompression 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:

- The numbness and tingling in the fingers and thumb may persist.
- Damage to the median nerve. This may require re-operation and nerve repair.
- Damage to the tendons, which may require surgical repair of the tendons.
- The operation occasionally does not work and needs to be done again.
- Pain at the wrist when making a fist or leaning on the wrist.
- Scar tenderness – may be permanent or temporary.
- Weakness of the muscles at the base of thumb, which does not go away.
- Abnormal pain response to surgery with worsening of pain and disability.
- The surgical cut may cause changes to the sensation and colour of the limb.
- In some people, healing of the wound may be abnormal and the wound can be thickened and red and the scar may be painful.

## D. Significant risks and procedure options

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

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## E. Risks of not having this procedure

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

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## F. Anaesthetic

This procedure may require an anaesthetic. *(Doctor to document type of anaesthetic discussed)*

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URN: \_\_\_\_\_

Family name: \_\_\_\_\_

Given name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex:  M  F  I

## 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 OR**
- Anaesthetic: Nerve Block**
- Carpal Tunnel Decompression**

- 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,

## I request to have the procedure

Name of Patient: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Patients who lack capacity to provide consent

Consent must be obtained from a substitute decision maker/s in the order below.

Does the patient have an Advance Health Directive (AHD)?

Yes ▶ Location of the original or certified copy of the AHD: \_\_\_\_\_

No ▶ Name of Substitute Decision Maker/s: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship to patient: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ PH No: \_\_\_\_\_

**Source of decision making authority (tick one):**

- Tribunal-appointed Guardian
- Attorney/s for health matters under Enduring Power of Attorney or AHD
- Statutory Health Attorney
- If none of these, the Adult Guardian has provided consent. Ph 1300 QLD OAG (753 624)

## H. Doctor/delegate Statement

I have explained to the patient all the above points under the Patient Consent section (G) and I am of the opinion that the patient/substitute decision-maker has understood the information.

Name of Doctor/delegate: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## I. Interpreter's statement

I have given a sight translation in \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (state the patient's language here) of the consent form and assisted in the provision of any verbal and written information given to the patient/parent or guardian/substitute decision-maker by the doctor.

Name of Interpreter: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BINDING MARGIN

## 1. What do I need to know about this procedure?

A Carpal tunnel decompression is done through a cut (7 - 10 cm) along the underside of the wrist. The nerve is found and will be freed by removing the tissue from it.

The wound will be closed with either dissolvable or non-dissolvable stitches.

## 2. My anaesthetic

This procedure will require an anaesthetic.

See **About Your Anaesthetic OR Anaesthetic: Nerve Block** 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.
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- The operation occasionally does not work and needs to be done again.
- Pain at the wrist when making a fist or leaning on the wrist.
- Scar tenderness – may be permanent or temporary.
- Weakness of the muscles at the base of thumb, which does not go away.

- Abnormal pain response to surgery with worsening of pain and disability.
- The surgical cut may cause changes to the sensation and colour of the limb.
- In some people, healing of the wound may be abnormal and the wound can be thickened and red and the scar may be painful.

### Notes to talk to my doctor about:

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