



SW9061



# Insertion of Ventricular Shunt

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)*

.....  
.....

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

.....  
.....

The following will be performed:

- Peritoneal Shunt  
 Pleural Shunt  
 Atrial Shunt

This procedure is performed to relieve pressure inside the skull caused by fluid on the brain. This fluid is drained from the ventricles of the brain into the abdominal/pleural cavity or atrium of the heart by the means of a device called a shunt.

## C. Risks of the Insertion of Ventricular Shunt

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.
- Minor pain, bruising and/or infection from IV cannula site. This may require treatment with antibiotics.
- 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, Aspirin, Clopidogrel (Plavix or Iscover) or Dipyridamole (Persantin or Asasantin).

**Uncommon risks and complications (1-5%)** include:

- The shunt may be inadequately placed. This may require further surgery to re-position the shunt.

- The shunt may become infected requiring antibiotics and removal.
- The shunt may block, become disconnected or malfunction. This may require further surgery.
- Abnormal sensations such as pins and needles, numbness or pain may occur from the wound after the operation. This may be temporary or permanent.
- Fluid leakage from around the brain may occur through the wound after the operation. This may require further surgery.
- Small areas of the lung may collapse, increasing the risk of chest infection. This may need antibiotics and physiotherapy.
- Increase risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications, and thrombosis.
- 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.

### Extra specific risks and complications of Pleural Shunt:

- Air in the lung (Pneumothorax), requiring further treatment.
- Collection of fluid within the lung (Pleural effusion). This would require further treatment.

### Extra specific risks and complications of Atrial Shunt:

- Arrhythmias of the heart requiring further treatment.
- Infection of the heart (Infective Carditis) requiring further treatment.
- Kidney infection (Glomerular nephritis) requiring further treatment.

### Rare risks and complications (less than 1%) include:

- Heart attack due to the strain on the heart.
- Stroke or stroke like complications may occur causing neurological deficits such as weakness in the face, arms and legs. This could be temporary or permanent.
- Epilepsy which may require medication. This condition may be temporary or permanent.
- Injury to the liver, bowel, lung or heart due to the surgical tunnelling process. This may require further surgery and an increase in hospital stay.
- Death as a result of this procedure is very rare.



**Queensland  
Government**

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URN:

Family name:

Given name(s):

Address:

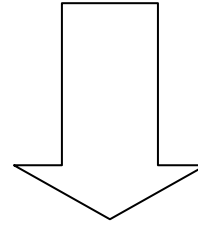
Date of birth:

Sex:  M  F  I

### D. Significant risks and procedure options

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

- This consent document continues on page 3 -



### 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)*

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BINDING MARGIN



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## 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**
- Insertion of Ventricular Shunt**
- Blood & Blood Products Transfusion**

- 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: .....

# Consent Information - Patient Copy

## Insertion of Ventricular Shunt

### 1. What is an Insertion of Ventricular Shunt?

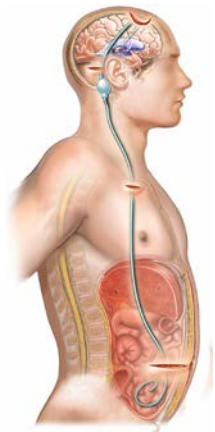
- Peritoneal Shunt
- Pleural Shunt
- Atrial Shunt

This procedure is performed to relieve pressure inside the skull caused by fluid on the brain. This fluid is drained from the ventricles of the brain into the abdominal/pleural cavity or atrium of the heart by the means of a device called a shunt. A shunt usually consists of two catheters and a one-way valve.

A small cut is made in the scalp and a small hole is drilled into the skull beneath the cut. A small tube (catheter) is placed into the brain to drain the fluid.

Another cut is made either in the abdomen or chest. A second catheter is tunneled under the skin, from behind the ear, down the neck and chest, and ends in a cavity.

The catheter from the abdomen and the catheter in the brain are then connected by a valve. This valve controls the flow of fluid from the brain. The valve will be sutured under the skin to stop it from moving. The cuts will be closed with sutures.



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### 2. My anaesthetic

This procedure will require a general 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.

**Common risks and complications (more than 5%)** include:

- Infection, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.

- Minor pain, bruising and/or infection from IV cannula site. This may require antibiotics.
- 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, Aspirin, Clopidogrel (Plavix or Iscover) or Dipyridamole (Persantin or Asasantin).

**Uncommon risks and complications (1-5%)** include:

- The shunt may be inadequately placed. This may require further surgery to re-position the shunt.
- The shunt may become infected requiring antibiotics and removal.
- The shunt may block, become disconnected or malfunction. This may require further surgery.
- Abnormal sensations such as pins and needles, numbness or pain may occur from the wound after the operation. This may be temporary or permanent.
- Fluid leakage from around the brain may occur through the wound after the operation. This may require further surgery.
- Small areas of the lung may collapse, increasing the risk of chest infection. This may need antibiotics and physiotherapy.
- Increase risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications, and thrombosis.
- 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.

**Extra specific risks and complications of pleural shunt:**

- Air in the lung requiring further treatment.
- Collection of fluid within the lung (Pleural effusion). This would require further treatment.

**Extra specific risks and complications of atrial shunt:**

- Arrhythmias of the heart requiring further treatment.
- Infection of the heart (Infective Carditis) requiring further treatment.
- Kidney infection (Glomerular nephritis) requiring further treatment.

**Rare risks and complications (less than 1%)** include:

- Heart attack due to the strain on the heart.
- Stroke or stroke like complications may occur causing neurological deficits such as weakness in the face, arms and legs. This could be temporary or permanent.
- Epilepsy which may require medication. This condition may be temporary or permanent.
- Injury to the liver, bowel, lung or heart due to the surgical tunnelling process. This may require further surgery and an increase in hospital stay.
- Death as a result of this procedure is very rare.