Common risks and complications include:

- Minor pain, bruising and/or infection from the IV cannula. This may require treatment with antibiotics.
- Pain or discomfort at the puncture site. This may require medication.
- Minor bleeding or bruising around the catheter. This is usually stopped by applying pressure and/or ice to the catheter insertion site.
- Failure of the thrombolytic medication to completely dissolve the blood clot or incomplete removal of the blood clot, resulting in stroke like complications. This can cause weakness in the face, arms and legs. This could be temporary or permanent.
- Failure of local anaesthetic which may require a further injection of anaesthetic or a different method of anaesthesia may be used.
- Nerve damage, is usually temporary, and should get better over a period of time. Permanent nerve damage is rare.

Less common risks and complications include:

- Infection, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.
- Damage to surrounding structures such as blood vessels, organs and muscles, requiring further treatment.
- Stroke caused by constricted blood vessels, blood clots or ruptured artery. This can cause weakness in the face, arms and legs. This could be temporary or permanent.
- Stroke or spontaneous bleeding in other organs, such as stomach and bowel. This is due to the thrombolytic and blood thinning medications given during the procedure. The procedure will be stopped and may require surgery to stop the bleeding.
- A blood clot or excessive bleeding from the puncture site. This may require other treatment and/or corrective surgery.
- An allergy to injected drugs, requiring further treatment.
- The procedure may not be possible due to medical and/or technical reasons.

Rare Risks and complications include:

- An increased lifetime cancer risk due to the exposure to x-rays.
- Skin burns or damage from exposure to x-rays.
- Seizures and/or cardiac arrest due to local anaesthetic toxicity.
- Death as a result of this procedure is rare.
I understand; explained the proposed procedure.

I acknowledge that the doctor/doctor delegate has
been given the following Patient Information Sheet/s:

- Thrombolysis &/or Clot Retrieval- Cerebral
- Iodinated Contrast
- About Your Anaesthetic (if required)

I was able to ask questions and raise concerns with the doctor/doctor delegate about the proposed procedure and its risks. 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/doctor delegate.

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.

I understand that Queensland Health may release my relevant de-identified information obtained from this and related procedures for education and training of health professionals.

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: ..........................................................................
Date: .............................................................................
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)

F. Doctor/delegate Statement

I have explained to the patient all the above points under:

- the Patient Consent section (E)
- Iodinated Contrast - Patients with Renal Impairment Section (D) (for renal impaired patients only)

and I am of the opinion that the patient/substitute decision-maker has understood the information.

Name of Doctor/delegate: .................................................................
Designation: ..........................................................................
Signature: ..........................................................................
Date: .............................................................................

G. 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: .............................................................................
1. What is a Cerebral Thrombolysis &/or Clot Retrieval?

Cerebral Thrombolysis &/or Clot Retrieval is a procedure that removes a blood clot that is blocking the blood flow to the brain.

Thrombolysis is the use of medication to dissolve or break down the blood clot.

Clot retrieval involves the removal of the clot by using specialised equipment.

These procedures are performed while having an angiogram. An angiogram is a procedure where x-rays and Iodinated ‘Contrast’ (once called x-ray dye) are used to examine blood vessels and to locate the blood vessels that are blocked. This is done by placing a needle and a thin plastic tube (catheter) into the artery in your groin.

For more information on Iodinated ‘Contrast’ and the risks involved in its use, please read the Iodinated Contrast Patient Information Sheet. (If you do not have this information sheet please ask for one).

2. Will there be any discomfort, is any anaesthetic needed?

This procedure will require an injection of local anaesthetic and may require a general anaesthetic. For more information on general anaesthetics and the risks involved, please read the About your Anaesthetic Patient Information sheet. (If you do not have this information sheet please ask for one).

3. Preparation for the procedure

Please tell the staff if:

- You are or suspect you might be pregnant or are breastfeeding.

- If you take Aspirin, Warfarin, Clopidogrel (Plavix and Iscover) or Dipyridamole (Persantin and Asasantin) or any other drug that is used to thin your blood ask your doctor/health practitioner if you should stop taking it before the procedure as it may affect your blood clotting.

- If you have had any alcohol or recreational drugs in the 24 hours before the procedure or have a drug habit, please tell your doctor as these may alter the affects of the sedation anaesthetic.

4. During the procedure

A fine needle (IV cannula) will be put into a vein in your arm.

The Radiologist (x-ray doctor) will perform the angiogram. This involves the injection of local anaesthetic into the skin. A needle and catheter are inserted into the artery in your groin; sometimes your arm may be used. Once the catheter is in place the needle is removed.

The catheter is guided through the main blood vessels in your body until it reaches the area to be studied. You should not be able to feel the catheter inside your body.

X-ray pictures are taken while the Contrast is injected into your arteries.

When the blood clot has been located the catheter will be placed directly into the clot or beside the clot.

The size and location of the blood clot will indicate which treatment method is used. You may have one OR both of the following procedures;

- Infusion of Thrombolytic Medication
  Thrombolytic medication will be injected through the catheter directly into the blood clot to dissolve it.

- Clot Retrieval
  The clot retrieval equipment is inserted through the catheter until it reaches the blood clot and captures it. The blood clot is removed; this step may need to be repeated.

When the procedure is finished the catheter will be removed. Firm pressure will be put over the area where the catheter went into your skin (puncture site), sometimes a special plug is used. This allows the artery to seal so you will not bleed.

5. After the procedure

Immediately after the procedure you will be monitored in the hospitals Intensive Care Unit (ICU) or High Dependency Unit (HDU), and then transferred to the ward. You will need to lie flat and keep your leg (or arm) still and straight for 4 to 6 hours. Moving too soon after the procedure may cause bleeding at the puncture site.

You are encouraged to resume normal daily activities as soon as possible. Staff will discuss with you the level of activity recommended after your procedure.
You may be asked to continue taking blood thinning medications after your procedure.

6. What are the risks of this specific procedure?
The risks and complications with this procedure and the angiogram can include but are not limited to the following.

**Common risks and complications include:**
- Minor pain, bruising and/or infection from the IV cannula. This may require treatment with antibiotics.
- Pain or discomfort at the puncture site. This may require medication.
- Minor bleeding or bruising around the catheter. This is usually stopped by applying pressure and/or ice to the catheter insertion site.
- Failure of the thrombolytic medication to completely dissolve the blood clot or incomplete removal of the blood clot, resulting in stroke like complications. This can cause weakness in the face, arms and legs. This could be temporary or permanent.
- Failure of local anaesthetic which may require a further injection of anaesthetic or a different method of anaesthesia may be used.
- Nerve damage, is usually temporary, and should get better over a period of time. Permanent nerve damage is rare.

**Less common risks and complications include:**
- Infection, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.
- Damage to surrounding structures such as blood vessels, organs and muscles, requiring further treatment.
- Stroke caused by constricted blood vessels, blood clots or ruptured artery. This can cause weakness in the face, arms and legs. This could be temporary or permanent.
- Stroke or spontaneous bleeding in other organs, such as stomach and bowel. This is due to the thrombolytic and blood thinning medications given during the procedure. The procedure will be stopped and may require surgery to stop the bleeding.
- A blood clot or excessive bleeding from the puncture site. This may require other treatment and/or corrective surgery.
- An allergy to injected drugs, requiring further treatment.
- The procedure may not be possible due to medical and/or technical reasons.

**Rare Risks and complications include:**
- An increased lifetime cancer risk due to the exposure to x-rays.
- Skin burns or damage from exposure to x-rays.

**Notes to talk to my doctor/ health practitioner about:**

- Seizures and/or cardiac arrest due to local anaesthetic toxicity.
- Death as a result of this procedure is rare.
1. What is Iodinated Contrast?
The medical imaging procedure your doctor has asked you to have uses iodinated ‘Contrast’ (once called X-ray dye). Contrast is a colourless liquid which includes iodine. Contrast is injected into your bloodstream to allow your organs to be seen more clearly on x-rays. Contrast is not a dye. It does not stain the inside of your body. Your doctor needs to use Contrast to be able to get all the information needed to assist with your diagnosis.
This information sheet must be read together with the information sheet of the procedure you are booked for (if you do not have this information sheet please ask for one).

2. During the procedure
When the Contrast is injected you may feel:
- A very warm or ‘flushed’ feeling over your body, this may also make you think you have passed urine. You will not pass urine – it is only a feeling.
- A ‘metallic’ taste or smell may also happen. This usually lasts less than a minute.

3. After the procedure
It is recommended that you drink 2 to 4 glasses of water after your procedure to help flush the Contrast from your body. Contrast does not affect your ability to carry out normal activities; you should be able to continue with your day as normal.

4. Precautions
Contrast is not suitable for some people; you will be asked a series of questions before it is given to you. Your answers allow staff to identify any risk factors that you may have.
- Please tell the staff if you are or suspect you might be pregnant or are breastfeeding.
- Kidney function
  - Contrast is removed from your blood by your kidneys through your urine. It is easily removed from the body of people who have normal kidney function.
  - Giving Contrast to people with weakened kidneys (renal impairment), can cause further kidney damage, which may in turn cause the kidneys to stop working properly (acute renal failure).
  - You may be asked to have a simple blood test to find out the level of their kidney function.

5. What are the risks of Iodinated Contrast?
The risks and complications with this injection can include but are not limited to the following.
Common risks and complications include:
- No known common risks.
Less common risks and complications include:
- Injected Contrast may leak outside of the blood vessel, under the skin and into the tissue. This may require treatment. In very rare cases, further surgery could be required if the skin breaks down.
- Acute Renal Failure occurs when one or both of your kidneys suddenly stop working. Failure can last for days or weeks. It may take the kidneys a long time to regain their previous level of function and you may require dialysis to filter your blood during this time. There is a risk your kidneys could be permanently damaged. To reduce this risk the smallest possible dose of Contrast will be given.
- The injection may not be possible due to medical and/or technical reasons.
Rare risks and complications include:
- Allergic reactions occur within the first hour with most happening in the first 5 minutes. Late reactions have been known to occur up to a week after the injection.
  Note: Allergy to topical iodine and/or seafood does not imply an allergy to iodinated Contrast.
The reactions vary from:
  - Mild – hives, sweating, sneezing, coughing, nausea.
  - Moderate – wide spread hives, headaches, facial swelling, vomiting, shortness of breath.
  - Severe – Severe reactions are rare but include: life-threatening heart palpitations, very low blood pressure, throat swelling, fits and/or cardiac arrest.
  - Death as a result of Iodinated Contrast is very rare.

6. What are the safety issues when you leave the hospital?
Go to your nearest Emergency Department or GP if you become unwell.