Craniotomy for Evacuation of Intracranial Haematoma

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

The following will be performed:

A Craniotomy for evacuation of intracranial haematoma is performed to remove a blood clot from around the surface of the brain.

A cut is made in the skin over the site of the blood clot. A segment of skull bone is removed to allow the surgeon to view the brain. The firm outside lining of the brain will be opened.

The blood clot is identified and removed. The surface of the brain is rinsed to help remove the clot.

The skull is closed with plates and screws and the cut closed with stitches or staples.

C. RISKS OF A CRANIOTOMY FOR EVACUATION OF INTRACRANIAL HAEMATOMA

There are some risks/complications with this procedure/treatment/investigation.

Common risks include:

- **Infection.** This may need antibiotics and further treatment.
- **IV cannula.** This may cause minor pain, bruising and/or infection at the injection site. This may require treatment with antibiotics.
- **Bleeding.** If bleeding occurs further surgery may be required. 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).

Uncommon risks include:

- A heart attack because of the strain on the heart or a stroke.
- Clots in the leg (deep vein thrombosis or DVT) with pain and swelling. Rarely part of this clot may break off and go into the lungs.
- Fluid leakage from the brain can occur after the operation. This may require further surgery.

Rare risks include:

- Epilepsy which may require medication. This condition may be temporary or permanent.
- Death is possible due to this procedure.

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 treatment/procedure/investigation may require an anaesthetic. *(Doctor to document type of anaesthetic required)*
G. PATIENT CONSENT

I acknowledge that the doctor has explained:

- my medical condition and the proposed procedure/treatment/investigations, 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/treatment. 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/treatment.
- that no guarantee has been made that the procedure/treatment 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 accordingly.
- a doctor other than the Specialist Neurosurgeon may conduct the procedure. I understand this could be a doctor undergoing further training.

I have been given the following Patient Information Sheets:
- About your Anaesthetic
- Craniotomy for Evacuation of Intracranial Haematoma

I was able to ask questions and raise concerns with the doctor about my condition, the proposed procedure/treatment/ investigations 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 before the procedure/ treatment/investigation, including after I have signed this form but, preferably following a discussion with my doctor.

On the basis of the above statements,

I REQUEST TO HAVE THE PROCEDURE

Name of Patient/Substitute decision maker and relationship:  
Signature:  
Date:  
Substitute Decision-Maker: Under the Powers of Attorney Act 1998 and/or the Guardianship and Administration Act 2000. If the patient is an adult and unable to give consent, an authorised decision-maker must give consent on the patient’s behalf.

H. DOCTOR’S 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:  
Signature:  
Date:  
Name of Anaesthetist:  
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:  