Insertion of External Ventricular Drain

Facility:  

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:

External Ventricular Drains are inserted for the management of too much fluid or increased pressure on the brain.

The procedure involves a small cut being made about 10cm above the eyebrow usually on the top right hand side of the head. A small hole is drilled into the skull beneath the cut and the firm covering of the brain is opened.

A small plastic tube (drain) is passed into the fluid spaces of the brain and stitched in place. The drain is connected to a drainage collection bag to collect the fluid from the brain. The drain will stay in place until the excess fluid is managed or other treatment options are discussed.

The cut is closed with sutures or clips.

C. RISKS OF A INSERTION OF EXTERNAL VENTRICULAR DRAIN

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

Common risks include;
- Infection. This may need antibiotics and further treatment.
- Minor pain, bruising and/or infection from IV cannula site. This may require treatment with antibiotics.
- Bleeding. A return to the operating room for further surgery may be required if bleeding occurs. 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.
- Stroke like complications which can cause weakness in the face, arms and/or legs. This may be temporary or permanent.
- Fluid leakage from around the brain can occur after the operation. This may require further surgery.
- The drain may need to be replaced in the future with a more permanent diversion procedure.
- Epilepsy which may require medication. This condition may be temporary or permanent.
- 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.
- 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.

Rare risks include;
- Injury to the brain, important nerves or blood vessels. This can lead to stroke like complications which can cause weakness in the face, arms and/or legs.
- Death is rare 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)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Insertion of External Ventricular Drain</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facility: ________________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>URN:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Name:</td>
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<td>Sex: ☐ M ☐ F</td>
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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
- Insertion of External Ventricular Drain

- 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,