Lumbar Microdiscectomy

Facility: ....

(Affix patient identification label here)

URN:

Family Name:

Given Names:

Address:

Date of Birth: Sex: ☐ M ☐ F

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 Lumbar Microdiscectomy is performed to remove a prolapsed disc or disc fragments to relieve pressure on the spinal nerve roots or spinal cord.

An x-ray will be taken during surgery and used to confirm the correct level of surgery.

A small cut is made in the middle of the back over the site of the prolapsed disc. With the help of a microscope the prolapsed disc is identified. Once identified, the prolapsed disc or disc fragments are removed from the spine.

A small plastic tube (drain) may be inserted to allow any residual fluid to be drained away. This will be removed within 24 – 48 hours.

The cut is closed with stitches or staples.

C. RISKS OF A LUMBAR MICRODISCECTOMY

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. 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).
- 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.
- **Uncommon risks** include;
- A heart attack because of the strain on the heart.
- Stroke or stroke like complications can occur which can cause weakness in the face, arms and legs. This could be temporary or permanent.
- 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.
- Nerve root injury. Resulting in weakness in foot movement with impaired mobility. This may be temporary or permanent.
- Injury to the covering of the spinal cord. This may require further surgery.
- Ongoing persistent back and leg pain, with possible leg numbness due to nerve damage from compressed nerve roots. This may require further surgery.
- Recurrence of disc prolapse. This may require further surgery.
- Deterioration of other discs. This may require further surgery.
- Leakage of cerebrospinal fluid. This may need further surgery.
- Visual disturbance. This may be temporary or permanent.

Rare risks include;

- Paraplegia. This may require further surgery. This may be temporary or permanent.
- Injury to major blood vessels. This will require further urgent surgery.
- Death is very 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)*

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Lumbar Microdiscectomy	(Affix patient identification label here)
	URN:
	Family Name:
	Given Names:
	Address:
Facility:	Date of Birth: Sex: ☐ M ☐ F

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**
- ♦ **Lumbar Micro Discectomy**

- 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: ....

Designation: ....

Signature: ....

Date: ....

Name of Anaesthetist: ....

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: ....