



Procedure Information Sheet

Introduction

In certain diseases of the nervous system such as infections of the coverings of the brain (meningitis), infection of brain tissues (encephalitis), bleeding (hemorrhage) and tumors with the brain and the spinal cord, cerebrospinal fluid obtained through lumbar puncture may be the only test to confirm the diagnosis.

Indication

Such as infections of the coverings of the brain (meningitis), infection of brain tissues (encephalitis), bleeding (hemorrhage) and tumors with the brain and the spinal cord.

The Operation / Procedure

1. You will be instructed to lie on your side, and hug your legs; so that your back is curved in a "C" shape.
2. The procedure is performed under aseptic technique. After local anesthesia given, the doctor will insert a needle into your back at the space between two lumbar backbones.
3. Please be relax throughout the procedure.
4. Cerebrospinal fluid pressure will be measured and 5-10ml of fluid will be obtained for laboratory analysis.
5. The puncture wound will be sealed with dressing. This procedure usually lasts less than 30 minutes.

Before the Operation / Procedure

1. A written consent is required.
2. Please inform doctor if you are taking medication that affect blood coagulation, such as Aspirin, Plavix, Warfarin, Xarelto, Pradaxa, Eliquis, Lixiana and so on.

After the Operation / Procedure

1. You are advised to lie flat in bed, the resting hour is ordered by your doctor usually.
2. If headache occurs, inform your nurses for painkillers.
3. If you find the dressing is wet, inform your nurses. New pressure dressing will be applied.

Risk and Complication

1. Headache is relatively common and can usually be controlled by painkillers. (10% - 30%)
2. Rare problem caused by procedure can include infection, bleeding, pain or numbness at the back or legs
3. Brain herniation is very rare but life-threatening.

Disclaimer

This leaflet only provides general information pertaining to this operation / procedure. While common risks and complications are described, the list is not exhaustive, and the degree of risk could also vary between patients. Please contact your doctor for detailed information and specific enquiry.

Reference

Johnson, K.S., Sexton, D.J., Aminoff, M.J. & Wilterdink, J.L. (2016). Lumbar puncture: Technique, indications, contraindications, and complications in adults. *UpToDate*. Retrieved on 15/11/2018 from https://www.uptodate.com/contents/lumbar-puncture-technique-indications-contraindications-and-complications-in-adults?search=lumbar%20puncture&source=search_result&selectedTitle=1~150&usage_type=default&display_rank=1

Patient's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Patient's Label

Patient Name: _____

Hospital No: _____

Episode No: _____