

Consent for Anaesthesia

Type of Anaesthesia

- General Anaesthesia
A general anaesthetic, or GA, involves administration of a mixture of medications to induce and maintain a state of unconsciousness, paralysis (if required) and pain relief (analgesia). Medication may be injected and/or inhaled. Also, a breathing tube is inserted to maintain adequate breathing efforts during surgery. This tube is removed when the patient wakes.
- Regional Anaesthesia
This technique involves insertion of needles into target areas, with or without ultrasound guidance. Target areas may be peripheral nerves or the areas surrounding the spine. Upon needle placement, medication may be injected or a catheter may be inserted.
- Monitored Sedation
Measured amounts of anaesthetic medication is injected to induce a state of relaxation.

Risks of general anaesthesia

Common temporary side effects (10%)

- Headache, dizziness, nausea, vomiting
- Pain/bruising at injection sites
- Sore throat
- Drowsiness, short term memory loss
- Blurring of vision
- Shivering
- Dental trauma

Infrequent side effect (1%)

- Muscle aches
- Weakness
- Mild allergic reactions such as rash and itch

Uncommon **complications** (0.001%)

- Awareness: having sensation/pain during operation
- Vocal cord/laryngeal damage
- Allergic reactions/ asthma
- Pressure sores

Extremely rare **complications** (0.0001-0.00001%)

- Severe allergic reaction/Anaphylaxis
- Aspiration pneumonia
- Cardiac events
- Neurological events
- Blood clots in legs/lungs
- Death

Risks of regional anaesthesia

Common temporary side effects (10%)

- Numbness. Weakness, temporary loss of control over numbed area
- Shivering, body itch
- Blood pressure drops may induce nausea and/or fainting spells
- Inability to pass urine
- Bleeding/bruising over injection site

Serious but uncommon side effects

- Nerve damage. This may be temporary or permanent. Symptoms may range from patchy numbness to debilitating paralysis
- Headache. Temporary but may last for days
- Breathing difficulty
- Seizures
- Inadequate outcome of the regional anaesthetic

The above risks and complications have been explained to me.

Patient's signature:	
Doctor's signature:	
Date:	