



Procedure Information – Carotid Artery Stenting and Angioplasty

Visit No.: Dept.:
Name: Sex/Age:
Doc. No.: Adm. Date:
Attn. Dr.:
Patient No.: PN

Page No:

01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09
+10	+20	+30	+40	+50	+60	+70	+80	+90

*Please fill in /
affix patient's label*

Introduction

Carotid artery stenting/angioplasty is a special X-ray procedure for opening-up the narrowed carotid artery, in order to prevent further stroke. Carotid artery stenting/angioplasty is considered in patient with transient ischemic attacks and stroke, diagnosed to have at least 70% internal carotid artery stenosis. Stent restenosis and occlusion rate is below 10% and may require subsequent treatment.

The Procedure

1. The procedure will be performed under local anesthesia or general anesthesia.
2. The doctor will puncture a blood vessel at your groin region (mostly right side) with a needle. After the needle is correctly positioned, a slender guidewire is placed through the needle into the blood vessel. The needle is then withdrawn, allowing a fine plastic tube (the catheter) to be placed over the guide wire into the blood vessel.
3. The X-ray equipment will then be used to navigate the catheter into your neck region and special dye (contrast medium) will be injected through the catheter and X-rays taken.
4. A cerebral protection device will be placed into your artery to decrease the risk of stroke.
5. Stent of appropriate size will be placed within the artery over your neck region.
6. Your artery will be dilated by a balloon attached to catheter tip.
7. You may feel dizziness and your blood pressure may drop during the procedure.
8. The cerebral protection device will be removed after the procedure.
9. During the procedure, you should not move your head or talk.
10. Certain drugs may be given to you during the procedure to control your blood pressure and prevent clots formation.
11. The duration of carotid stenting/angioplasty is different for every patient, it depends on the complexity of the condition. Usually the procedure last for one to two hours.
12. Your vital signs (e.g. blood pressure, pulse) and neurological condition will be monitored during and after the procedure.

Risks and Complications

- There will be 5% chance that the procedure is unsuccessful
- Overall death related to carotid artery stenting/angioplasty is about 2%
- Overall incidence of major complications of carotid artery stenting/angioplasty is around 5%
- Major complications includes:
 - Major stroke results in permanent neurological deficit (permanent limb weakness, numbness, visual loss)
 - Groin or retroperitoneal hematoma requiring transfusion or surgery
 - Arterial occlusion requiring surgical thrombectomy or thrombolysis
 - Arteriovenous fistula / pseudoaneurysm at puncture site
 - Contrast media associated nephrotoxicity
 - The overall adverse reactions related to iodine-base non-ionic contrast medium is below 0.7%. The mortality due to reaction to non-ionic contrast medium is below 1 in 250,000.
 - Breakage and knot forming of catheter or guidewire is very rare, this may require surgical removal.
 - Cardiac arrest at time of balloon dilatation.
- Minor complications includes:
 - Groin bruise and pain
 - Complications related to contrast medium injected – rash, urticaria
 - Symptomatic bradycardia, temporary asystole
 - Transient neurological deficit which is reversible within 24 hours (limb weakness, numbness)
 - Transient visual loss



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Before the Procedure

1. Your doctor will explain to you the reason, procedure and possible complications. You will need to sign a consent form. You should volunteer information to your doctor on history of allergy to food and drugs, history of asthma, urticaria, eczema and allergy to contrast medium.
2. Check any bleeding tendency and correct if possible.
3. Skin preparation of the puncture site.
4. Fast for 6 hours before the examination. Empty the bladder before the procedure.
5. During the examination, you are advised to listen carefully to the instructions given by our staff.
6. Diabetic patient on drug - consult clinician concerned for the adjustment of insulin dosage if necessary.

After the Procedure

1. After the catheter was removed, the puncture site has to be compressed for at least 10mins.
2. Continue to watch for evidence of secondary bleeding and swelling at the puncture site.
3. Continue to check blood pressure and pulse, or neuro-observation.
4. You may need to have bed rest.
5. You may need to continue to fast or take diet as tolerated depending on your condition.
6. Diabetic patient on drug - consult clinician concerned for the adjustment of insulin dosage if necessary.

After-Care at Home

1. Usually you can be discharged 1-3 days after the procedure. Follow up as instructed by your doctor.
2. The wound will be inspected and covered with light dressing. Please keep the wound site clean and change dressing if it gets wet. In general, showers are allowed after 2 days.
3. Please avoid vigorous activities (household or exercise) in the first 3 days after the procedure. Bruising around the wound site is common and usually subsides 2-3 weeks later. If you notice any signs of infection, increase in swelling or pain over the wound, please contact your doctor or visit a nearby Accident and Emergency Department immediately.
4. Follow up as instructed by your doctor.

Remarks

This is general information only and the list of complications is not exhaustive. Other unforeseen complications may occasionally occur. In special patient groups, the actual risk may be different. Should a complication occur, another life-saving procedure or treatment may be required immediately. For further information please contact your doctor.

Reference

Hospital Authority – Smart Patient Website

I acknowledge that the above information concerning my operation/procedure has been explained to me by Dr. _____. I have also been given the opportunity to ask questions and receive adequate explanations concerning my condition and the doctor's treatment plan.

Patient / Relative Name

Signature

Relationship (if any)

Date