

## SURGICAL CONSENT FOR FRACTURED RADIAL HEAD

I, **Dr Simon Journeaux** have discussed with the patient to undergo the following procedure:

### OPEN REDUCTION & INTERNAL FIXATION OR EXCISION OF RIGHT/LEFT RADIAL HEAD FRACTURE +/- BONE GRAFT POSSIBLE PROSTHETIC REPLACEMENT

I have discussed the following issues, risks with the patient.

**General Risks of Procedure:** These include:

- a) Deep vein thrombosis occasionally affecting the lung.
- b) Lung infection – requiring antibiotics and physiotherapy.
- c) Increased risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart & lung complications.
- d) Increased risk in smokers of wound and chest complications, heart & lung complications, and thrombosis.
- e) Heart attack.
- f) Small risk of death.

**Common Risks of Procedure: ( 1-5%)**

- i) **Pain:** your wrist may be sore after your operation. Keeping the arm elevated most of the time will help reduce the pain and swelling.
- ii) **Bleeding:** there may be some bleeding after your operation. Vary rarely, a blood vessel is damaged and there is more bleeding or it may form a clot. This may need another operation to stop the bleeding or remove the clot.
- iii) **Stiffness.**

**Rare risks of Procedure: ( < 1%)**

- i) **Infection:** This may require further surgery and or the use of antibiotics.
- ii) **Neurovascular Damage:** The blood vessels and nerves around the elbow may become damaged (Posterior interosseous nerve). This might lead to numbness or weakness of the muscles. This is usually temporary however in very rare cases it may become permanent.
- iii) **Compartment Syndrome:** This is a build up of pressure within the forearm and cause pain, nerve damage, blood vessel damage and muscle damage. If this occurs an emergency operation will have to be performed.
- iv) **The surgery may fail and the bones may not fuse properly.** If this occurs then another operation may be needed.
- v) **Metal/prosthetic problems.** This may or may not require another operation to remove the screw.
- vi) **Arthritis:** Stiffness at the wrist or elbow may occur despite adequate reduction. Arthritis may be more common if the fracture involves the joint.

**PATIENT CONSENT**

I acknowledge that Dr Journeaux has explained my medical condition and the proposed procedure to me. I understand the risks of the procedure and the likely outcomes both good and bad. The doctor has explained other relevant treatment options and their associated risks. The doctor has explained my prognosis and what will happen to me if I do not go ahead with the procedure.

It is very important that you feel you have been fully informed about all the issues and risks relating to treatment of a fractured ulna and you understand what it fully means to you. Please read carefully the following statements about this procedure that **Dr Journeaux** has advised for you to have and place an initial beside each one if you agree. If you do not understand or have any further questions please ask **Dr Journeaux** to explain them further.

I agree to the above procedure being performed. I also request the administration of anaesthetics, medicines, blood transfusions or other forms of treatment normally associated with having this procedure.

I also agree to any other unplanned procedure(s) being performed if they are necessary for my well being and they cannot be discussed with me at the time as I am under the influence of an anaesthetic and/or other drugs.

I (patient's or next of kin's name) \_\_\_\_\_ of, (address)

Please initial the following statements:

- X..... **understand why it is necessary to have my fractured radial head operated on.**
- X..... **understand the potential benefits, risks and possible complications of this surgery.**
- X..... **understand the alternative forms of treatment that are available, including not having the procedure, and why having this procedure is the most appropriate for me.**
- X..... **have had all my concerns about the procedure explained.**
- X..... **feel informed about having fracture surgery.**

Patient/Next of kin  
signature:.....

Dr Simon F Journeaux  
signature:.....