Calcium Removal

PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET US06

Your appointment:

Date: .....

Time: .....

Location: .....

Please see our website for more clinic details.

Duration of examination

The procedure will take up to 45 minutes and performed under local anaesthesia without sedation.

Please bring with you:

- Your request form
- Medicare and any
- Healthcare cards

Payment on the day of the examination is requested.

For more information regarding Benson Radiology please visit:

bensonradiology.com.au

What is a Calcium removal?

When calcium builds up in a tendon - the tissue that connects muscle to bone, it can cause acute and debilitating pain. This condition is called calcific tendinitis. There are instances where the calcification can also affect the subacromial bursa. This is referred to as calcific bursitis.

Calcium removal, also known as barbotage, involves using a needle guided with ultrasound into the deposit of calcium. This deposit is agitated with saline to flush out any soft particles of calcium and to encourage the body's natural response to resorb the irritant. A combination of corticosteroid and anaesthetic is also applied to the region to reduce localised inflammation.

Your referring doctor will determine if this treatment is appropriate for you.

This procedure is typically performed in instances where you have not responded to conservative measures.

What preparation is required?

No preparation is required.

What will happen during the examination?

The procedure is well tolerated. A sterile technique with ultrasound guidance is employed. There are typically no stitches required as there is a small hole in the skin at the needle entry site.

You should have a driver on hand to assist post procedure.

Are there any risks?

The most common risk is flare up of pain and swelling post procedure. This is to be expected due to the agitation of the build-up of calcium. As with any procedure there is a possible risk of infection and bleeding, however complications are rare.

There is the possibility of nerve and tendon injury, this is remote.

If there is pain, redness, swelling, general unwellness, fever - persisting symptoms that are worsening please consult your doctor.

After the examination

The images will be reviewed and reported by our radiologist. These will then be sent to your referring clinician. For details on reporting timeframes, please speak with our reception staff. It is important that you follow up the results of your examination with your referring clinician.

Benson radiology

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