

SURGICAL CONSENT FORM

For

INTRALESIONAL CURETTAGE, CRYOSURGERY, AND GRAFT

Your surgeon has recommended that you undergo a surgery known as intralesional curettage and graft for treatment of a bone tumor. The goal of this surgery is to obtain a specimen for biopsy purposes and to remove the tumor from within your bone. This procedure is performed under a general anesthetic and requires dissection of the soft tissues (muscles, blood vessels, and nerves) from around the bone in order to gain access to the area of concern. An oval shaped window will be created in the bone and through this window the tumor will be removed. The entire specimen is sent to the pathologist who is on site and typically in the Operating Room, studying the specimen even during the surgery. Following removal of the specimen, the margins, or area immediately next to the tumor, is widened using high speed burrs which serve to enhance those margins providing an improved method of ensuring that all tumor cells are removed or eradicated. For aggressive benign tumors, or low grade malignant tumors, Cryosurgery is commonly added. Cryosurgery is a process whereby liquid nitrogen is instilled into the tumor cavity and the cavity itself is frozen to the point where all tumor cells will be killed. The cryosurgical procedure lowers the risk of recurrence and achieves a theoretical wider margin.

The cavity will then be cleansed and prepared for receipt of the bone graft. Bone graft is not typically taken from the patient, rather is a commercially available synthetic based product that will promote the patient's own bone to grow into the defect left behind from the tumor extraction. Eventually this reconstruction will reproduce the patient's own bone, structure, and function.

As with any operation, there are risks involved. The risks of this operation include; infection, bleeding, neurovascular compromise or risks to the blood vessels and nerves, fracture, local recurrence of disease, stiffness of the accompanying joint, deep venous thromboses or blood clots, and anesthetic risks, up to and including death. While these risks are actually quite small, they can occur and therefore we take every precaution to prevent them from happening. Additionally, if a complication occurs, it can usually be dealt with effectively. For example, if an infection were to occur following the surgery, antibiotics and/or surgical debridement and cleansing of the infected wound would be performed. The risk of bleeding is quite small and your surgeon will always be prepared for that problem should it arise.

One of the greatest risks of this surgery is the possibility of fracture. By merely creating a hole in the bone, and certainly by using cryosurgery, there is a risk of fracture. Fracture or breakage of the bone could occur at the time of surgery, or anytime thereafter for many months. For this reason, your

surgeon will recommend the use of crutches or a walker for a period of time following the surgery. This period of time might be up to three months.

Blood clots can occur after any lower extremity surgery and the risk is increased with immobility. Therefore, your surgeon will advise you to be as mobile as possible in order to prevent blood clots. Frequently blood thinners are used during and after your hospitalization for patients with high risk of developing blood clots.

Following your surgery, your surgeon will want to check the status of the wound typically within a week of the surgery. At this follow-up visit he will discuss the surgical findings and give you further instructions regarding activity level, exercises, physical therapy, etc. You should expect to have some numbness around the surgical site. This will resolve over a period of time. Likewise you will have swelling following your surgery. Ice and elevation of the operated limb will alleviate the swelling significantly. Most patients regain their function, including the ability to play sports, run, and participate in activities of their choosing within 3 – 4 months. Obviously each surgery is unique and your surgeon will discuss expectations with you.