



Locoregionale anesthesie - Bierse Blokkade - Engels

Locoregional anaesthesia - Bier Block

Locoregional anaesthesia

Locoregional anaesthesia temporarily makes a part of the body, e.g. the arm or the entire lower body, numb and motionless. By injecting an anaesthetic around a nerve, nerves or nerve pathways can be temporarily disabled.

This form of anaesthesia means that you remain awake during surgery. You can ask the anaesthetist or nurse anaesthetist for a sleeping aid (sedation) during the operation if you prefer to sleep through it.

You will not see anything of the surgery because it is performed behind a screen/cloth.

The locoregional anaesthetic is given by injection. Where you will be injected depends on the area to be operated on. The anaesthetist and the nurse anaesthetist or holding area employee will support you during the injection of the anaesthetic. They will explain what is happening. The anaesthetic will be given time to take effect before the surgery starts. Depending on the type of anaesthetic, this can take from a few minutes to an hour or an hour and a half.

Different locoregional anaesthesia techniques

Some examples of locoregional anaesthesia techniques are:

- Bier block
- Spinal anaesthesia
- Epidural anaesthesia
- Plexus block

Bier block

A Bier block is an anaesthetic of the arm used for short-duration surgery on the hand or arm. You will be connected to monitoring equipment and your blood pressure will be measured regularly.

You will have an IV needle inserted into both hands.

One needle is connected to an infusion bag with fluid. This allows the medication to be given on the side of your body not undergoing surgery.

The needle on the surgery side is used for the local anaesthetic.

A special cuff is placed around the upper arm to stop the blood flow of the arm undergoing surgery. The arm is tightly wrapped in a wide elastic bandage, from the hand up to the upper arm. Once your entire arm is wrapped, the cuff on the upper arm is inflated very tightly. After verifying that the cuff is positioned correctly, the elastic bandage will be removed.

The anaesthetic is injected into the now 'empty' blood vessels via the IV needle. This can cause the fingers and hand to feel warm. This is normal and will disappear once all the anaesthetic fluid has been administered. It takes ten to fifteen minutes for the anaesthetic to work optimally. Before the surgery starts, the anaesthetist will check that it is working properly. The cuff should remain inflated for at least 30 minutes. Once the surgery is complete and the 30 minutes are up, the cuff will be deflated. The blood flow will start again and the feeling in your arm will return quickly.

Side effects and complications of a Bier block

Pain

During the surgery, local pain may develop where the cuff presses against the skin.

Hypersensitivity

The anaesthetics used can sometimes cause hypersensitivity. The symptoms are breathlessness, a skin rash and low blood pressure. This can be treated.

The anaesthetic in the bloodstream

If the cuff is deflated too early, too much anaesthetic may enter the bloodstream. You will then experience tingling around the mouth, an increasingly worsening metallic taste in the mouth, and numbness of the mouth and tongue. An exacerbation causes tension, agitation, tremors, confusion, cardiac arrhythmias and sometimes unconsciousness. If you feel any of these side effects, please let us know as soon as possible.

The anaesthesia does not work properly

There is a chance that the anaesthetic will not work properly. In this case, the surgeon can give you an extra local anaesthetic through an injection. In other cases, it is better to opt for an additional general anaesthetic. The anaesthetist will discuss this with you.

If you prefer not to be awake during surgery, ask for a sleeping aid. This will be discussed in advance. You will then be given sedation.

Sedation

If you want, you can ask for a sleeping aid during the operation. This sleeping aid is called sedation and will be administered through an IV line. Sedation makes you less aware of the time and place. It makes you sleepy and drowsy and less aware of the surgery. You will have less discomfort, such as stress, anxiety and pain.

Sedation is not the same as general anaesthesia

Sedation will not render you unconscious. You will retain your important reflexes and will be able to breathe and swallow as normal.

Complications and side effects of sedation

Side effects or complications due to sedation are rare. Nausea may occur as a side effect of the medication or procedure. Tell the anaesthetist or nurse if you feel nauseous.

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