



Patient Information on Radiosynoviorthesis

Nuclear medicine joint treatment

Dear Patient,

A radiosynoviorthesis has been scheduled for you on medical instruction.

Treatment appointment:

at

This information sheet provides an overview of the treatment process and the necessary precautions.

Preparation

Before treatment, you underwent a comprehensive diagnostic assessment including a bone scan. On the basis of these examinations, it was determined that radiosynoviorthesis is suitable for your joint condition.

Ordering the medication

The nuclear medicine medication required for you is ordered individually in the dose intended for your treatment and delivered for the day of treatment.

Treatment of several joints

Radiosynoviorthesis can be performed on large, medium-sized and small joints. Several joints in the same limb can be treated in one session, for example several finger joints on the same hand or several toe joints on the same foot. Both hands, both feet or joints in different limbs are treated at different times so that everyday activities are affected as little as possible during immobilisation. The specific treatment plan is determined individually.

Please keep your appointment

Please attend the agreed appointment. If you are unable to attend, cancel at least ten days in advance. The preparation is ordered specifically for you and has a limited shelf life.

Treatment procedure

The skin over the relevant joint is thoroughly disinfected. The joint is then punctured.

If there is fluid in the joint, it is completely aspirated. The nuclear medicine medication is then injected into the joint under X-ray guidance. The puncture site is carefully dressed and the joint is bandaged.

After treatment

The bandage applied immediately after treatment already immobilises the treated joint for 72 hours. The bandage remains in place for three days; the treated area should be cooled regularly.

Control image

At the end of treatment, a distribution scintigram is obtained to document the correct distribution of the radiopharmaceutical within the joint.

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Risks and radiation exposure

Possible side effects

Side effects are uncommon when the procedure is performed carefully. A mild reactive effusion may occur during the first few days after the injection; regular cooling helps to reduce this reaction.

In rare cases, tissue damage may occur along the needle tract. Also rarely, a small amount of the substance may reach nearby lymph nodes, particularly if the treated joint is not kept completely still.

Important safety information

As with any joint puncture, a bacterial infection is possible despite the greatest care.

Radiation exposure

The radiation effect is almost entirely limited to the treated joint. The substances used travel only a few millimetres within the body. Areas away from the joint and other people are therefore exposed only to a very small extent.

If you have understood the information, agree to the treatment and have no further questions, please confirm this below.

☐ I have read the patient information, had the opportunity to ask questions and agree to the planned treatment.

Date

Patient signature