

Embolisation of a varicocele

Your doctor has referred you for embolisation of a varicocele.

In most cases, the examination and procedure last approximately one to two hours in addition to two to three hours of post-treatment care.

Please see the arrival instructions or appointment letter for contact information, if you have any questions about the procedure.

Before the procedure

If you are hypersensitive to local anaesthetics or iodine-bearing contrast medium, please inform the referring doctor or the radiographer of this before the procedure.

- You must abstain from eating for at least 4 hours before the procedure.
- Please bring something to eat with you.
- Please shower on the morning of the procedure.
- Please do not arrive for the procedure in your own car.

Any medication prescribed to you by your doctor should be taken normally.

If you are on anticoagulant drugs, please abide by the instructions regarding a pause in medication provided by your treating unit.

During the procedure

During the examination you will lie on your back on the examination table.

The radiology staff will inform you of the progress of the examination.

The procedure is performed via a vein in the groin under local anaesthesia. A catheter will be inserted in the vein, contrast medium is injected, and X-ray images are taken.

In the treatment procedure, the catheter is inserted into the testicular vein and the vein is embolised with metal-wire coils and embolic substance.

You may experience some pain during the procedure, and you will receive pain medicine as needed.

After the procedure

Once the examination is over, the hole made in the blood vessel will be closed by manually pressing it. Afterwards you will be confined to bed for 1–4 hours.

The radiology department will provide you with instructions regarding postoperative care.

You can go home on the procedure day.

After the procedure, you may eat and drink normally.

The urologist in charge of your care will inform you of the results. The urologist will come and see you after the procedure and determine if you need sick leave.

Other things to note

Please take your Kela-card or identification with you.

Cancel the appointment if you cannot come. If you do not cancel, you will be charged a fine.