

After the procedure

- The patient will be moved to the Hyperacute Stroke Unit located on the 7th floor of University Hospital where they will be closely monitored.
- A limited number of visitors are permitted in the Hyperacute Stroke Unit. Please speak with the nursing staff about visiting.
- The doctor will provide an update to the family.
- The patient will need to lie flat and keep the leg with the groin puncture straight for 2 to 4 hours after the sheath is removed from the groin.
- The patient may do the following for comfort:
 - turn from side to side with help while keep the leg straight,
 - wiggle their toes,
 - bend the leg that was **NOT** punctured in the groin,
 - have the head of their bed raised slightly and have pain medication if needed.
- After the procedure the patient's:
 - Blood pressure, heart rate, breathing, comfort level, and neurological status will be monitored.
 - Groin area will be monitored for bleeding and swelling.
 - Legs and feet will be monitored for blood flow and circulation.

Tell the nurse right away if you notice warmth or dampness or bleeding around the bandage in the groin.

- The patient may not be able to eat or drink after the procedure. They will have an intravenous (IV) for hydration.

Providing the patient is stable they will be transferred back to their local stroke centre within 24 to 48 hours after the procedure.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to any member of your health care team.



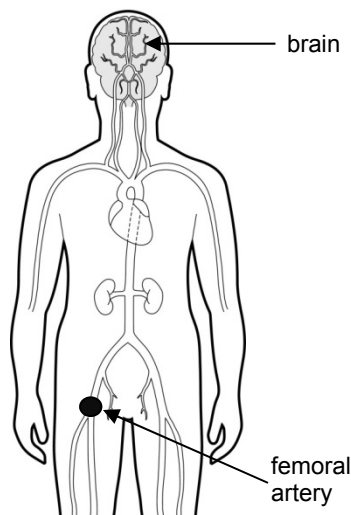
Clot Retrieval for Stroke

When a person has had a stroke caused by a blockage of blood flow to the brain, this type of stroke is called an ischemic stroke.

Some of the treatments that may be considered include:

- A medication called tPA (tissue plasminogen activator). This medication helps to dissolve or break down the clot and restore blood flow to the brain. It is given through an intravenous (IV), a thin tube that is inserted into a vein in the arm. Some patients are not eligible to receive tPA because of medical conditions or medicines taken.
- Thrombectomy (throm-bec-to-me) – a procedure to remove the blood clot. To determine if your family member is eligible for this procedure, he or she will have special imaging called a CTA (computed tomography angiogram) to look at blood vessels and blood flow in the brain.

Mechanical Thrombectomy (Clot Retrieval)



A small thin tube, called a sheath, is inserted in the femoral artery in the groin area.

	<p>A guide wire and catheter are inserted through the sheath into the femoral artery and passed to the artery with the clot in the brain.</p>
	<p>The guide wire is removed and a compressed mesh stent is inserted through the catheter to the clot.</p>
	<p>The catheter is pulled back causing the mesh stent to expand through the clot. Once the clot is "trapped" in the stent, the clot can be safely removed with the stent.</p>

Mechanical Thrombectomy (Clot Retrieval)

Preparing for the thrombectomy

- The patient will be taken to the NeuroInterventional Suite at University Hospital, located on the 2nd floor in Medical Imaging (X-ray). He or she may have other imaging tests done when they arrive in Diagnostic Imaging (X-ray) before the procedure is started.
- The doctor doing the procedure will speak to the patient and/or Power of Attorney, or Substitute Decision Maker. The doctor will answer any questions and ask for consent for the procedure.
- During the procedure the family can wait in the waiting area located in Medical Imaging.

During the procedure

- During the procedure, the NeuroInterventional Health Care team will be with your family member. The team will consist of doctors, nurses, technologists and possibly an anesthetist.
- The patient may have a urinary catheter put in place.
- The hair in the groin area may be shaved.
- Blood pressure, heart rate, breathing, and comfort level will be continuously monitored.
- The room may be cold and there may have some discomfort during the procedure. The patient may receive medication through the intravenous (IV) line which will help to relax them and make them feel comfortable.
- The procedure takes about 1 to 2 hours.
- A small bandage will be placed on the groin puncture site after the sheath is removed at the end of the procedure.