



# Infiltration

INSTITUT DIAGNOSTISCHE UND  
INTERVENTIONELLE RADIOLOGIE

## Dear patient

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In the following, you will find some important information about the forthcoming examination.

### What is an infiltration

With an infiltration, medication will be injected systematically to reduce your pain. The radiologist performs this injection at the computer tomography department.

### The aim of the infiltration

Nerve roots are cord-like strands, which emerging from the spinal cord and leaving the spinal canal through a small opening between the vertebral bodies outwards into the soft parts of the body. At this narrow exit, you could get affected easily by a slipped disk, arthrotic vertebral joints, or other problems.

The infiltration aims to desensitise the impaired nerve root temporarily. This will allow us to determine whether this nerve root is actually responsible for your symptoms. It will also help to reduce your pain. Potential muscle tensions may release and allow supporting measures, such as physiotherapy, to become more effective. We cannot forecast though how effective the treatment might be for every individual case.

### The treatment process

The infiltration is performed by the radiologist, as well as specialised radiology personnel. You will be laying in an abdominal position on the examination couch. It is essential that you make yourself as comfortable as possible, to ensure that you are as calm and relaxed as possible for the treatment. After a few first overview images, we will mark the infiltration location on your back. The radiologist disinfects the area and positions a sterile cover. With local anaesthesia, the area is desensitised. With repeated image control, the radiologist places the needle carefully near the impaired nerve root and injects small quantities of anti-inflammatory medication (cortisone), as well as a local anaesthetic.

We will cover the injection point with a plaster, which should be removed at the earliest 24 hours after the procedure.

After the infiltration, we will ask you to walk around for 10 minutes and indicate afterwards, whether you can already feel an improvement of the pain.

### Possible side effects

Due to the local anaesthetic in the proximity of the nerve, you may encounter sense disturbances or weakness of your arm and/or leg for some hours.

As it is the case with all medication and substances, allergies to the local anaesthetic or cortisone are possible in rare cases.

### Driving a car

Following the infiltration, you are forbidden to drive for at least 4 hours.

# Infiltration

Name:  
First name:  
Date of birth:

## Dear patient

We would like to ask you to answer the questionnaires thoroughly. We have enclosed some information for the forthcoming examination. Please read that information. Our personnel is available with help and advice, should you have questions or feel unsure about anything.

Do you suffer from...

... at a contrast medium allergy?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no
... any other allergies? (local anaesthesia...) Which one: <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no
... thyroid hyperactivity?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no

Do you take...

... blood thinning medication?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no
... any other medication? Which one? <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no
... currently cortisone?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no

For women of childbearing age:

Could you be pregnant?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no
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After the infiltration, temporary weakness in the leg or foot can occur. For this reason, we must ask you **not to drive your car for at least 4 hours**.

I confirm hereby that I took note of the information, and that I have answered the above questions truthfully. With my signature, I consent to the examination.

Date:

Signature of the patient:  
(or the person in charge)

*Visum Radiologiefachperson:*