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onderzoek

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You have made a reservation with Privatescan for the CCSVI Liberation angioplasty treatment in our clinic in Düsseldorf. Through this information sheet we give you an idea of how this treatment will go and how you need to prepare yourself for this treatment.

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Dr. Paolo Zamboni, an Italian doctor and former vascular surgeon, developed a new type of treatment/therapy for MS patients suffering from CCSVI called 'The Liberation Therapy'. According to him (this doctor) MS is possibly not a chronic disease of the central nervous system, but a disease of the vascular system. After having carried out successful angioplasties' on the vascular systems of MS patients, it appeared that these MS patients had much less or no more acute attacks any more. The symptoms that these patients had decreased considerably and further deterioration had/was stopped.

Besides the diagnostic examinations which determine the presence of CCSVI, Privatescan also performs the so called Liberation treatment as was developed by Prof. Paolo Zamboni. 90 days after treatment Privatescan carries out an additional number of monitoring examinations which include a new ultrasound / doppler examination. Tests to additionally gauge your bodily and cognitive limitations are done before and after your treatment. Your therapy days are as follows:

Your preparation:

It is of the most importance that you arrive sober at the clinic, so you are not allowed to eat or drink coffee or tea before the treatment, you are allowed to drink a little water. Clients who take medicine to thinner their blood, need to stop taking these medicines 10 days before the treatment starts. We advise you to only do this in consultation with your doctor or your thrombosis service, so you can be given other medication if necessary.

Day 1. Tests (bodily / cognitive) and CCSVI Liberation angioplasty treatment.

Preliminary meeting with the treating physician. Duration of about 20 minutes.

Diagnostic examinations and tests. Tests to assess cognitive, condition, motoric (balance and coordination) abilities to what degree. These assessments together form a starting point prior to the treatment. Duration of about 1 hour. The following tests will be carried out.

- Test 1. Balance test
- Test 2. Treadmill test. (if possible)
- Test 3. Bartel index
- Test 4. FR- index
- Test 5. MAS questionnaire
- Test 6. DYMUS questionnaire
- Liberation Angioplasty treatment. Duration of about 1 hour.

In medical terms, an angioplasty treatment is mostly called an angiography. The day of your angiography will typically look as follows:

You will lie down on the examination table in the angiography room.

After the skin is disinfected and covered with a sterile cloth a local anaesthetic will be given either in the groin or the inside of the elbow by means of an injection of about 10 ml lido Cain 1 % (Xyloneural). Subsequently a puncture of an artery of the leg or arm is performed and a thin examination catheter is introduced (diameter of the catheter is about 1.2 to 1.8 mm). The catheter is advanced into the main artery on the basis of an X-ray image and then guided into the intended vessel. Normally this takes only a few minutes.

Next a contrast agent is injected via the catheter in order to show the individual blood vessels and to visualize the distribution. For a short time the contrast agent causes a feeling of warmth throughout the body. This feeling of warmth lasts less than 10 seconds and is completely harmless. During the procedure you may be asked to briefly hold your breath.

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Additionally it may sometimes be necessary – in order to assess the image of the vessels on the screen better – to administer a medication that temporarily blocks the movement of your intestines during the procedure. This medicine briefly causes a dry, bitter taste in the mouth and possibly also dizziness for a short time. This medicine must not be administered to a patient with increased intraocular pressure (glaucoma/ cataract). So please let us know if you suffer from cataract or glaucoma!

After confirming on the monitor that the catheter has reached the target area (stenosis), a tiny balloon in the target area is filled with air. Only if necessary and ballooning is not sufficient enough a stent is being used at were the stenosis is at. Then the catheter will be removed.

After the removal of the catheter from the groin a special closure tool (AngioSeal®) will be put in place. This allows you to stand up and move around rather soon, albeit very carefully. If the procedure is without complications, you will be discharged from hospital after four hours. If the catheter was introduced via the elbow, the site of the injection must be compressed manually until the bleeding has stopped (normally after 10 minutes), after which a pressure bandage is applied; this is done because arterial blood pressure of a punctured artery has to be contained for a faster healing process. Therefore the pressure bandage has to stay in place for 4 – 6 hours and you will need strict bed rest during that time so no bleeding occurs or a haematoma (accumulation of blood in the tissue) is formed in the area of the injection.

A written report (protocol) is prepared of the procedure.

After the period of rest and bedside monitoring, and provided that there were no complications, you can be transported by car or taxi to your hotel. As the used material may negatively affect your driving capabilities, you should not drive a car or any other vehicle yourself until 8 hours after the treatment! Stay for check up and recovery. Duration of about 4 hours.

Subsequent meeting with the doctor. Duration of about 30 minutes. The written report follows within 10 working days.

You will receive a prescription for the following medications, which you have to collect from your pharmacy in your hometown.

- **Fraxiparin Spritzen: this one you have to take in for 1 week after the treatment**
- **Plavix(Iscover) : this one you have to take in for 1 month after the treatment**
- **Ascal of aspirin: this one is being advised for permanent use**

Day 2. After 90 days a CCSVI Control sonography / Doppler and repeat of the tests.

Meeting with the treating physician.

Ultrasound / Doppler. The purpose is to determine if the vein(s) treated are still free of stenosis after 90 days. After this period the chance of a recurring stenosis is considerably lower. Repeat of the 6 tests above. The purpose is to check the actual progress and scientifically gauge and annotate the treatment. It is important to have these documents with you and to give them to your own domestic specialist during your consultations. The chances of understanding and acceptance by your own medical specialist are increased by this.

A subsequent meeting with the treating physician and a written report of the diagnostic tests follows within approximately 3 working weeks.

Important notice: If the echo/doppler control, done 90 days after the initial treatment, shows that the previously removed stenosis has returned you will be treated again, without any extra charges, an angioplasty will be carried out. Of course only if it is considered medically safe and possible.