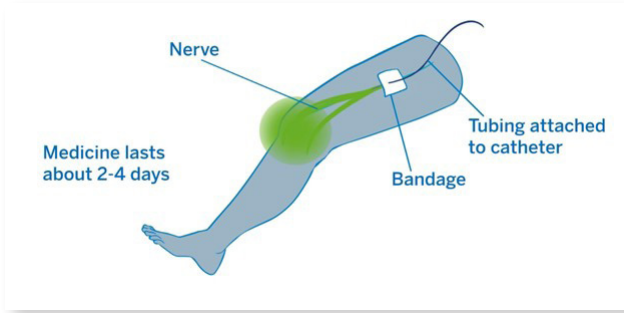


Are you interested in alternative pain management options for your knee replacement surgery?

Ask your surgeon if a take-home nerve block catheter could improve your pain relief after surgery.



What is a nerve block catheter?



- A nerve block catheter is a safe and effective way of decreasing pain after surgery.
- A catheter is a thin tube that is inserted under your skin after surgery. The tubing is connected to an infusion pump. The pump will deliver numbing medication automatically. Sometimes, your doctor may program the pump to allow you to push a button to deliver additional numbing medication around your nerves.
- The medicine in the pump generally lasts about two to four days.
- When the medicine is gone, the catheter can be easily removed at home.
- A nerve block catheter is also sometimes called a “peripheral nerve block catheter” or a “perineural catheter.”

How can a nerve block catheter help me after surgery?



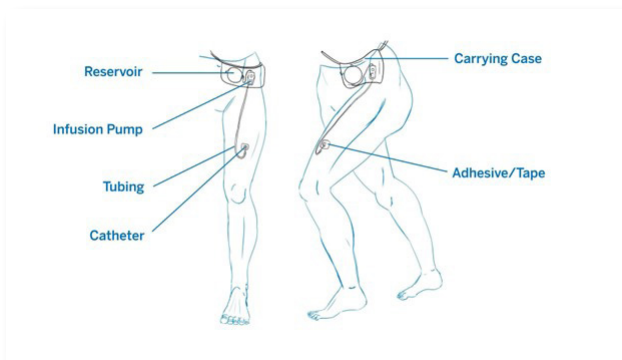
Studies show that there are many benefits to nerve block catheters, including:

- Greater likelihood of leaving the hospital sooner
- Less pain after surgery
- Less opioid use
- Less likelihood of opioid dependence
- Faster recovery of movement and function

How strong is the medicine delivered through the catheter?

- It is important to understand that the medicine delivered by the catheter is not as strong as the medicine in the nerve block you will receive during surgery.
- For this reason, you may experience some discomfort as that first nerve block wears off.
- However, when the take-home catheter is used in combination with oral medications and non-medicine pain relief methods (such as ice, relaxation techniques and changing positions), it should make your pain more manageable than it would be with oral pain medicine alone. This can help you regain movement faster and experience fewer side effects.

How does a nerve block catheter work?



- The catheter is connected to tubing that is attached to an infusion pump and a reservoir of non-opioid pain medicine (local anesthetics).
- The catheter is held in place with adhesive and tape.
- Before you leave the hospital, you will be given a small carrying case to transport the infusion pump as you move around.
- The infusion pump will deliver medicine automatically. You do not have to do anything to manage the amount of medicine you're receiving, unless directed by your medical care team.
- You may be given an option to press a button to give an additional dose of pain medicine, called a "bolus." After a bolus, the button will lock for a period of time to prevent you from receiving too much medicine at once.
- When the button unlocks, you will be able to give another bolus if needed. Do not let anyone press the bolus button without your consent.
- When the medicine is gone, you will be able to easily remove the catheter at home.

(cont.)

Is a take-home nerve block catheter right for me?

- Your surgeon and anesthesiologist will determine if you are a good candidate to receive a take-home nerve block catheter based on a variety of factors, including your type of surgery and whether you have support at home to manage your care.

Ask your surgeon if a take-home nerve block catheter is right for you!

Contact Us

QUESTIONS? For questions about the catheter or equipment, call the 24-Hour Avanos Product Support Hotline **1.800.444.2728**.

For videos and additional information, visit hss.edu/NerveBlockCatheter or scan the QR code below:



hss.edu/NerveBlockCatheter

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The logo for Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS), consisting of the letters "HSS" in white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a solid blue square.

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Jan_06_2023