

Patient information

Intracranial Pressure Monitoring (ICP)

Critical Care Department
Aintree Hospital

What is Intracranial Pressure (ICP) Monitoring?

ICP monitoring is done by inserting a metal ICP bolt through the skull to measure the pressure of the brain and surrounding tissue. This is usually performed by a neurosurgeon by the bedside while the patient is under sedation.

Why is it being done?

- ICP monitoring is usually done for patients with severe traumatic brain injury (TBI). Healthcare providers are able to monitor and maintain optimal brain pressure to ensure the best outcome possible for the patient.
- It can also inform healthcare providers of any deterioration such as brain swelling or bleeding to prompt further actions such as scans or giving medicine to control the brain pressure.
- The ICP bolt is not permanent and will usually stay in for several days until the risk of brain swelling from TBI becomes lower.

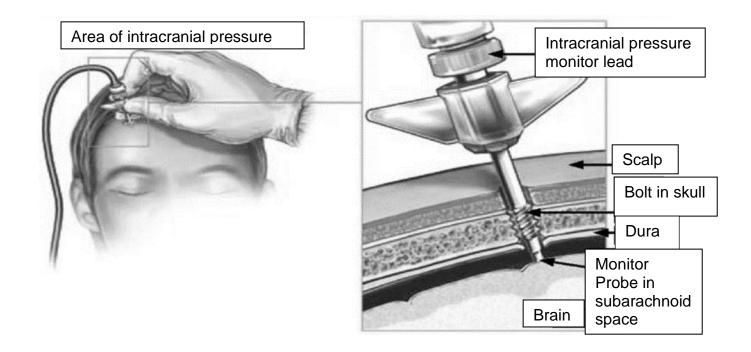
What are the risks of ICP bolt insertion?

The risk includes:

- Infection.
- Bleeding.
- Seizure.
- Damage to the brain tissue.

While the ICP bolt insertion is usually only performed when necessary to help us treat the patient, all steps will be taken to minimise the risks.

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Feedback

Your feedback is important to us and helps us influence care in the future.

Following your discharge from hospital or attendance at your outpatient appointment you will receive a text asking if you would recommend our service to others. Please take the time to text back, you will not be charged for the text and can opt out at any point. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

Further information

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