Informed Consent

Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy

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CONSENT for SURGERY/PROCEDURE or TREATMENT

1. Reflex sympathetic dystrophy (RSD) is not well understood. It involves a problem with the autonomic nervous system. This can happen in the arms or the legs. The automatic nervous system controls the body's involuntary processes. Examples are blood pressure, heart rate, and sweating. The voluntary aspects of the nervous system include the nerves that tell muscles to move body parts.

2. Patients with RSD usually have more pain after an injury or surgery than other patients. It often burns. There may be causalgia, or increased skin sensitivity. Patients may find touch or even blowing air uncomfortable. There may be swelling or changes in skin color. RSD pain differs from arthritis or carpal tunnel syndrome pains.

3. The cause of RSD is not known. It can occur after major trauma. Sometimes something as minor as a paper cut can trigger it. Surgery is "controlled trauma." Any surgical patient is at risk of developing RSD. This is true even if there are no issues. RSD may also happen if a nerve is hurt in an injury or during surgery.

4. RSD treatment involves nerve blocks and hand therapy. The prognosis varies. Some patients recover almost entirely. Others do not.

5. The risk is very small in patients with no prior history of RSD. All surgeries have some risks. It is important to compare them with the potential benefits.

6. The below checks indicate my medical history.

   - I have NO previous history of RSD, causalgia, or burning pain in my arms or legs.
   - I have had a history of RSD, causalgia, or burning pain.

7. I have read and understand this document. I have had the chance to ask Dr. Thomas Jeneby any questions.

I CONSENT TO THE PROCEDURE AND THE ITEMS THAT ARE LISTED ABOVE (1-7).
I UNDERSTAND THE EXPLANATION AND HAVE NO MORE QUESTIONS.

_____

Patient or Person Authorized to Sign for Patient Date/Time

Witness _____Date/Time_____

_____ Patient Initials

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