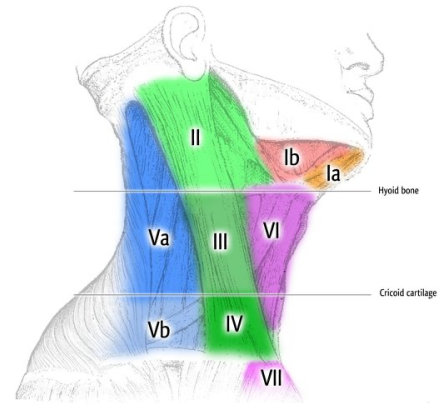


NECK DISSECTION INFORMATION SHEET FOR PATIENTS

Neck dissection may be a part of the main surgery or the only surgery recommended to you. This operation surgically removes lymph nodes in the neck. Each side of the neck contains 20-50 or more lymph nodes. Lymph nodes, commonly referred to as "glands," are a part of the immune system. Lymph nodes act as a "filter" for conditions of the head and neck. They may enlarge in response to infection, inflammation, and tumours. Malignant (cancerous) tumours of the head and neck can sometimes spread (metastasise). The site of origin of the cancer is called the **primary tumour**, and any spread of cancer to other sites is called **metastasis**.



DIAGNOSIS

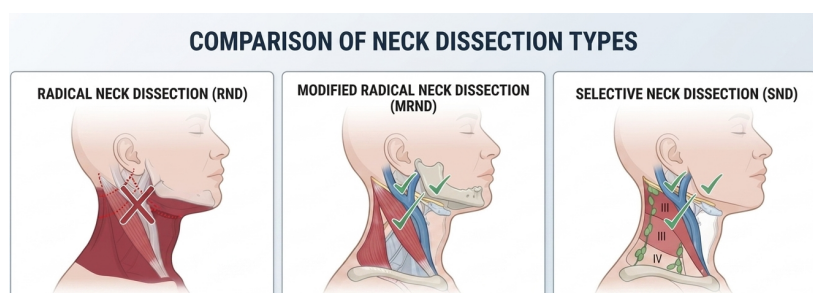
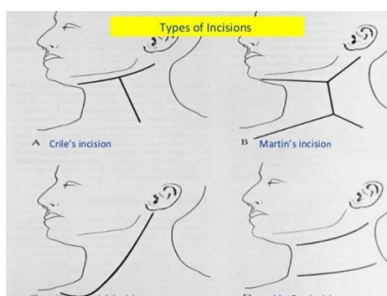
1. USG Neck
2. CECT/MRI/PET-CT
3. FNAC/FNAB/Tru-Cut Biopsy
4. Open Biopsy under LA/GA

POINT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU PROCEED

1. Depending on the staging (extent) of your head and neck cancer, a neck dissection might be recommended as part of your treatment plan.
2. Neck dissection might be suggested early in the therapy or towards the end of your cancer treatment, depending on your particular circumstance.
3. We might recommend neck dissection even if there is no evident spread into your lymph nodes on exam or imaging. This is done to help us determine if there has been microscopic metastasis.
4. The presence of microscopic metastasis would then have significant implications in guiding what other treatments are necessary, e.g. radiation or chemotherapy.

TYPES OF NECK DISSECTION-Surgeon shall decide which neck dissection will be undertaken and it can be subjected to change during the surgery.

1. Selective or Functional Neck Dissection
2. Modified Radical Neck Dissection
3. Radical Neck Dissection



SURGICAL RISKS AND POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

4. BLEEDING
5. MARGINAL MANDIBULAR NERVE: INJURY
6. SPINAL ACCESSORY NERVE
7. GREATER AURICULAR NERVE:
8. CHYLE LEAK:
9. HEMATOMA

Your operation will be carried out under a general anaesthetic. As with any type of surgery, the risks of anaesthesia such as breathing difficulties and even death are possible but very very rare. Please feel free to discuss any specifics of the anaesthesia with your anaesthesiologist.