

Who should not undergo a clot removal procedure?

You should not undergo a clot removal procedure if you are eligible for the first-choice stroke treatment of tPA or if you have had a stroke caused by bleeding in the brain (hemorrhagic stroke). You should also not have the procedure if you are allergic to the dye used in the procedure or if the blocked artery has lots of twists and bends, which can make it difficult to guide the device to the blood clot.

What are the risks of the procedure?

The risks of this procedure are similar to those of other procedures in which a catheter is inserted into your blood vessels. The device could break off a clot that could block another artery in the brain or elsewhere in the body, or the catheter or wire used to deliver the device could tear a hole in the blood vessel wall, possibly causing a bleeding stroke or death. There is also a risk of bleeding in the brain, which happens in about 10% of patients.^{6,7} The incision where the catheter was inserted can also result in bleeding problems.

References

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