

J22 Aneurysm Surgery

June 2009

Intro: Brain aneurysms can be very deadly. The ballooning vessel can rupture, leaking blood into your brain. If that happens there's a 60% chance you won't make it. Doctors agree that it's vitally important to fix aneurysms at risk of bleeding. Let's go to Mayo Clinic to learn about a new technique for repairing aneurysms. It's less invasive than traditional surgery and some patients can go home the same day.

Video

Total running time 1:29

CG :10 to :13

Ricardo Hanel, M.D.

Mayo Clinic

Audio

“YOU SEE A LITTLE POUCHING
RIGHT THERE? THAT’S THE
ANEURYSM.”

DR. RICARDO HANEL IS
PERFORMING A CEREBRAL
ANGIOGRAM TO LOCATE AND
DIAGNOSE ANEURYSMS IN THIS
WOMAN’S BRAIN.

“AN ANEURYSM IS WHAT WE
DESCRIBE AS A BLISTER ON A
VESSEL WALL.”

THIS PATIENT HAS THREE
ANEURYSMS. AND LESLIE BRAUN
SAYS LIVING WITH THE
KNOWLEDGE THAT THEY COULD

CG :22 to :37
Leslie Braun
Has aneurysm

RUPTURE AT ANY TIME IS
HORRIFYING.
“WONDERING WHETHER YOU’RE
GOING TO WAKE UP IN THE
MORNING OR IF ONE IS GOING TO
BURST AND THAT WOULD BE IT.
BECAUSE I WAS TOLD IF THE
BIGGER ONE HAD BURST I
WOULDN’T HAVE MADE IT TO THE
HOSPITAL.”

Standup
CG :38 to :47
Vivien Williams
Reporting

BUT INSTEAD OF OPEN BRAIN
SURGERY TO FIX HER LARGE
ANEURYSM, DR. HANEL USED
ANOTHER, MUCH LESS INVASIVE
TECHNIQUE. NO SCALPELS AND
CLAMPS, JUST WIRE COILS.

CG :48 to :55
Ricardo Hanel, M.D.
Mayo Clinic

“THE COIL IS NOTHING MORE THAN
A WIRE, A PLATINUM WIRE THAT
YOU CAN DETACH AND LEAVE
BEHIND INSIDE THE ANEURYSM.”
DURING THE PROCEDURE DR.
HANEL INSERTS A CATHETER AND
GUIDES IT TO THE SITE OF THE

ANEURYSM. ONCE THERE HE
RUNS THE WIRE TO THAT SITE AND
COILS IT LIKE A BIRD'S NEST IN
THE BALLOONING VESSEL. OVER
TIME, THE PATIENT'S BLOOD
CLOTS ONTO THE COIL,
PREVENTING BLOOD FROM
POOLING THERE.

Ricardo Hanel, M.D.
Mayo Clinic

“IT IS EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE AND
VERY SAFE FOR PATIENTS.”
AND MUCH EASIER ON THE
PATIENTS THAN STANDARD BRAIN
SURGERY. JUST HOURS AFTER
HER PROCEDURE, LESLIE IS
GOING HOME, SAFE FROM THE
POSSIBILITY OF A RUPTURED
ANEURYSM. FOR MEDICAL EDGE,
I'M VIVIEN WILLIAMS.

Anchor tag:

Dr. Hanel says while this procedure is a good option for many patients, it may not work for everyone. Some aneurysms are only accessible through open surgery.

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