

Laryngoscopy with Injection

What to expect for your surgery:

The surgery will most commonly be performed under general anesthesia but in some cases your physician may recommend that it be performed under sedation. The procedure usually lasts less than 20 minutes. You should expect to return home after the surgery.

The procedure involves injecting a substance into your vocal cord(s) to try and improve and strengthen the voice.

Please make sure not to eat or drink anything after midnight the night before unless you need a small sip of water for medications on the morning of the procedure.

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What to expect after your surgery:

Pain following the procedure is typically mild. Many patients do not require pain medication. A prescription medication will be provided to control pain. For mild pain, it is acceptable to use acetaminophen or ibuprofen. However, note that the pain prescription provided may contain acetaminophen and therefore, you should not use acetaminophen if you are also using the prescription pain medication.

Most commonly voice rest is NOT required after the procedure. However, if circumstances require voice rest, your physician will inform you on the day of the procedure.

There are no dietary restrictions following the procedure.

While the voice will often be stronger following the procedure, the quality of the voice will vary considerably for 1-3 weeks and may even seem temporarily worse.

Please avoid any heavy lifting (less than 5 pounds) or straining until you are instructed that it is OK to do so. You may resume cardiovascular activity 1 day after surgery.

Please call your physician if you experience any of the following: shortness of breath, coughing up blood, inability to swallow, fever >101, or excessive pain not controlled by the pain medication provided.

Your First Postoperative Visit:

A postoperative visit should be scheduled around 1 week after the procedure. If one has not been previously scheduled, please call the office for an appointment.

At your first postoperative visit a fiber optic camera will be used to examine your vocal cords. Additional follow up will be recommended and scheduled.

After this visit restrictions will be lifted and you will be able to resume normal activity and lifting.

You should expect gradual improvement in the voice after this visit. However, the degree of voice improvement varies from patient to patient and complete normalization of the voice is not always anticipated. Additionally, there may be a small group of patients who don't notice a difference. If you have continued voice complaints, you should discuss this with your physician at a follow up visit.