

Ventriculoperitoneal (VP) Shunt for Hydrocephalus



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Ventriculoperitoneal (VP) shunt surgery is the most common treatment for hydrocephalus. It is a neurosurgical procedure done to drain excess fluid (cerebrospinal fluid, or CSF) away from the brain.

How does it work? CSF is drained from the brain through a flexible silicon tube, called a shunt, to another part of the body (usually the abdominal cavity) where the reabsorption of this fluid can safely take place. ~~SM~~ incisions made on

■ Recovery

■ Expectations

The outcome of the surgery is usually extremely good. However, hydrocephalus may be associated with conditions, such as meningitis or a brain tumour, which influence prognosis and your long-term recovery to good health. A VP shunt does not cure these underlying diseases.