

Peripheral Nerve Tumor Excision

What is a peripheral nerve tumor?

Nerve tumors are growths that form within a peripheral nerve. They are not uncommon and typically are benign (non-cancerous), but can cause symptoms of nerve irritation and compression which may require treatment. Nerve tumors can develop on any nerve in any location so the signs and symptoms that develop vary depending on how that nerve is affected and what function that nerve has. These nerve tumors are more common in patients with a history of a condition known as neurofibromatosis or a history of radiation therapy.

What is a peripheral nerve tumor excision?

Nerve tumor excision involves removing the abnormal tissue growth from the nerve. This can only be done if the location of the tumor is such that it can safely be removed without damaging the nerve itself and requires a surgeon who specializes in tumor excision and repair. Often microsurgical techniques are required to safely remove the tumor while preserving function to the remaining portion of the nerve.

What is the surgical recovery?

The surgical recovery depends on the type and location of the peripheral nerve tumor. Most people can go home the same day and return to normal activities in 4-6 weeks. Malignant tumors may require additional cancer treatments if indicated by the pathology.