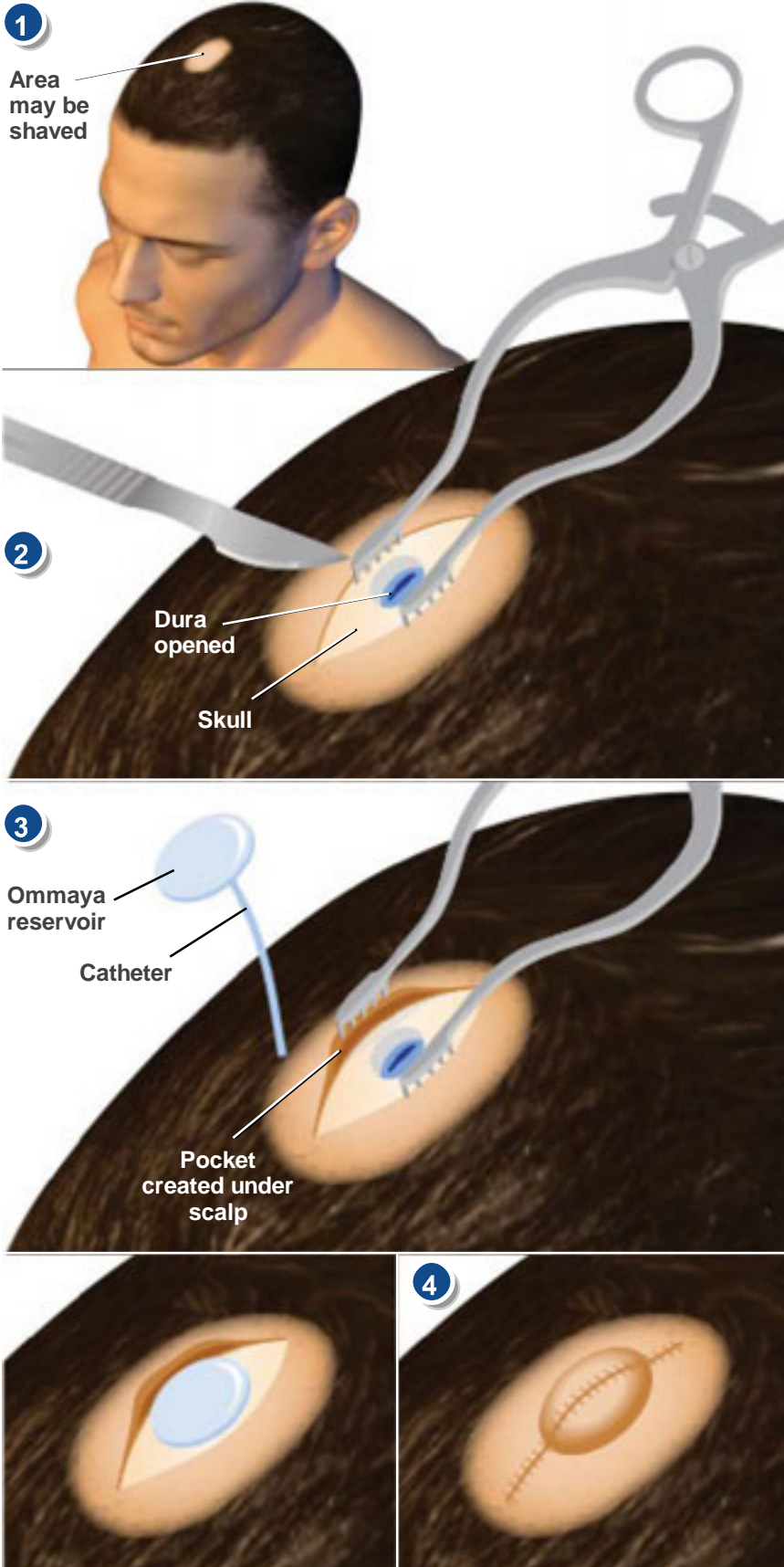


Ommaya Reservoir Placement



Overview

During this procedure, the surgeon places a small dome-shaped reservoir beneath the scalp and connects it to a fluid-filled cavity in the brain. Once in position, the ommaya reservoir can be used to administer medications or to withdraw fluid.

Preparation

In preparation for the procedure, general anesthesia is administered, and a portion of the patient's head may be shaved. The surgeon creates a small incision in the scalp. This tissue is spread open to expose the skull.

Accessing the Brain

The surgeon creates a tiny opening in the skull to expose the dura (the protective membrane around the brain). The surgeon carefully opens the dura.

Inserting the Device

The surgeon creates a small pocket beneath the scalp for the reservoir. The reservoir is slipped into this pocket, and a catheter at the base of the reservoir is guided down through the brain into the target area (usually a ventricle or cyst cavity). When the placement is complete, the surgeon closes the scalp with sutures or surgical staples.

After the Procedure

The patient will be monitored closely in the hospital overnight. Afterward, the patient will be able to resume normal activities. The physician will be able to inject medications or withdraw fluid easily by inserting a needle into the reservoir just below the scalp.