

# ARTERIAL EMBOLIZATIONS

## **WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU ARRIVE:**

All patients must register at the Outpatient Registration desk one hour prior to the procedure to allow for required blood work to be drawn and result.

You will need to arrange for someone to drive you home; you will not be allowed to drive yourself home. The Interventional Team will explain the procedure in detail and answer any questions you may have regarding the procedure. You may have an "Intravenous Catheter" (IV) placed after you arrive. You may be receiving medicines in your IV to relax you and diminish any discomfort, in addition to a local anesthetic. You will be asked to sign an informed consent to perform this procedure.

## **HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR PROCEDURE:**

All patients are to have NOTHING to eat after midnight the night before the procedure.

You must have a physician's order for the procedure to be done. Your doctor may fax the order.

If you are allergic to any medications, foods, or skin preparations soaps/agents, please inform the IR staff or your nurse. However, if you are allergic to "iodinated intravenous contrast" or "IV Dye" you will need to discuss this with your referring physician before he/she orders the procedure or test. You will be required to take a medication the night before your procedure and the morning of your procedure to counteract an "iodine reaction". If you are on BLOOD PRESSURE medicine you may take it with a sip of water. Bring a list of your medications with you, including inhalers if you use them.

If you are diabetic and take oral diabetic medicine and/or insulin, DO NOT take the morning of your procedure. The procedure you are scheduled for requires you to be NPO (having nothing to eat or drink) after midnight. Typically you will be able to eat 2-3 hours after the procedure when the sedation has worn off. If you have any further questions regarding this you can call the Interventional Cath Lab at 501-450-2342.

**If you take blood thinners, you will need to contact your Primary Care Physician for permission to discontinue any of these medications prior to your procedure.**

Then follow these instructions:

Coumadin, Plavix, or Aspirin, Aggrenox, Persantine.....Stop taking 5-7 days prior to procedure date.

Lovenox, Pradaxa.....Stop taking the day before the procedure.

We will make every attempt to start your procedure on time; however, due to emergencies and unpredictable changes in other procedures, we are sometimes delayed. We appreciate your patience and thank you ahead of time.

## **RECOVERY/HOME :**

The recovery time for an angiogram is 2-4 hours. You will return to your pre-procedure room where your family will be allowed to visit. You may be receiving sedation and you will need an escort to drive you home or have arrangements for someone to pick you up. We CANNOT discharge you without an escort. There is a possibility that you may need to be admitted overnight. You may wish to prepare for an overnight stay. We will provide discharge instructions prior to discharge. Please contact your Primary Care Physician after the procedure about restarting your medications, and when your blood tests should be taken.



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*Patient Information*