

## Vascular Interventional Radiology

### WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU ARRIVE

- ◆ The Interventional Radiologist will explain the procedure in detail and answer any questions you may have regarding the procedure.
- ◆ You will have an Intravenous (IV) placed after you arrive.
- ◆ You will be receiving medicines in your IV to relax you and diminish any discomfort, in addition to a local anesthetic.

### HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR PROCEDURE

- ◆ Do not eat solid food for 6 hours before your procedure.
- ◆ You may have clear liquids 3 hours before procedure. For example: water, clear broth, apple juice and black coffee. This does not include orange juice, milk or cream.
- ◆ You should take your regularly scheduled medications with a sip of water.
- ◆ Bring a list of your medications with you, including inhalers if you use them.
- ◆ If you are diabetic and on insulin, take half of your usual 24-hour total dose. Do not eat. Check your blood sugar by finger stick. Bring your own glucometer, if you have one.
- ◆ If you are taking oral diabetic medication, do not take the medicine the night before and the morning of the procedure. Do not eat. Consult your own doctor with questions. Bring your medication with you so that you will be able to take it when you begin eating.
- ◆ If you take Coumadin, Plavix, low molecular weight heparins, (such as Fragmin or Lovenox), 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.....Stop taking 7 days prior to procedure date.

Low molecular weight Heparins

Such as Fragmin or Lovenox.....Stop taking 24 hours prior to procedure date.

- ◆ Please contact your primary care doctor after the procedure about restarting your medications, and when your blood tests should be taken.
- ◆ 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 4-8 hours. You will recover in a hospital room.
- ◆ This will be assigned after your procedure.
- ◆ If you are having other procedures your recovery time will be usually be 1-3 hours in our recovery area.
- ◆ You will be receiving procedural sedation and 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.
- ◆ We will provide discharge instructions prior to discharge.

Patient Information