

Procedures/Diagnostic Tests: Interventional Radiology

Sampling procedure

You are scheduled for a Sampling procedure using fluoroscopy (x-ray). This procedure is done to take pictures of your blood vessels and obtain blood samples to localize endocrine tumors. It is a routine, common study, and is not surgery. However, even minimally invasive procedures have potential complications (although unlikely) which may include bleeding, infection or pain.

Preparation

Please have your physician or health care practitioner perform or place orders for:

- A History and Physical (“H&P”) to be written no more than 30 days before the procedure.
- Blood work including a “CBC”, “Acute Care Panel” and “Coags.” within 7 days of the procedure.
- If you take aspirin, ibuprofen (Motrin), naproxen (Aleve) or blood thinning medicines ask your physician at least 1 week before the procedure if you should continue taking them.
- Please do not eat anything after midnight.
- You may drink a sip of clear liquids such as water, clear tea or black coffee up to 2 hours before your procedure, please ask your physician.
- Please ask your physician if you should take your regular medications, at their usual time, with a sip of water before your procedure.

You will receive I.V. (intravenous) contrast during the procedure to help the radiologist visualize your blood vessels.

If you are allergic to I.V. contrast, you may need to be pre-medicated to safely receive I.V. contrast. Your doctor will probably have you take medications several times the day before the procedure, often starting 13 hours before the procedure. One possibility is:

- Prednisone by mouth, 13 hours pre-procedure
- Prednisone by mouth, 7 hours pre-procedure and
- Prednisone and Benadryl (Diphenhydramine) by mouth 1 hour pre-procedure.
- If you take a Metformin-containing product for diabetes, you need to stop taking it for 48 hours **after** the procedure, and have a BUN/Creatinine (blood work) evaluated to assess your kidney function BEFORE restarting the medicine. Your doctor will discuss the need for taking any other diabetes medications with you.

Before the procedure

- You will change into a hospital gown, unless you are already in one.
- The radiologist and IR nurse will discuss the procedure, answer any questions and then obtain your consent.
- An I.V. (intravenous line) is started unless you already have one.

During the procedure

- Any procedure where the skin is broken has a small risk of infection or bleeding. We clean the site with antiseptic soap and cover you with sterile towels.
- You receive local numbing medicine around the catheter insertion site.

- Your “vital signs” (EKG, pulse oximetry, and blood pressure) are continuously monitored.
- Your nurse will stay with you throughout your procedure.
- The radiologist uses ultrasound and fluoroscopy (real-time X-ray) to help him or her see the area of interest.
- Procedures generally last 1 to 2 hours or more, depending upon the complexity of the procedure.
- We may use a combination of pain medication and sedatives, if necessary, for your comfort during the procedure.

After the procedure

- You will be returned to your room on a stretcher.
- The catheter insertion site will have a dressing/bandage.
- The affected groin/leg must remain straight for 2 to 8 hours while you rest in bed.
- Your nurse will check the site for bleeding, swelling and pain frequently while you are on bed rest.
- If you need to cough sneeze or lift up your head hold firm pressure on the band-aid with your palm.
- Drink plenty fluids to clear the I.V. contrast dye from your body.
- Slowly resume a regular diet.
- Rest today and limit your physical activity.
- No heavy lifting (over 10 pounds) for 2 days.
- Remove the bandage/dressing in 24 hours.
- You may shower tomorrow.
- If you received sedation or anesthesia, do not drive a car, operate machinery, make legal/ important decisions or drink alcoholic beverages for at least 24 hours.
- Discuss with your physician when you should resume taking aspirin, ibuprofen (Motrin), naproxen (Aleve) or blood-thinners.

Special instructions

Please call your primary care team if you have any of the following symptoms:

- Temperature or chills (38.5 degrees C or 101 degrees F)
- Lightheadedness or dizziness or if you feel faint
- Redness, swelling, or excessive bleeding or drainage at your procedure site
- Unrelieved or increasing pain at your groin site
- If you have any routine questions or concerns, please contact your primary care team

If you have any symptoms you feel are significant or severe, and you cannot contact your primary care team, call 911 or go to your nearest Emergency Room. If possible, bring this sheet with you and give it to the Emergency Room staff.

NIH Clinic/Physician _____ Phone _____

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