

Interventional Radiology Discharge Instructions PICC Line Insertion

You have received the following Anaesthetic that is checked (✓)

- Local Anesthetic** – An injection of anesthesia (freezing) to numb a small area at the site of your biopsy/procedure. It is common to feel mild or temporary numbness or tingling around the site.
- IV Sedation** - Medications given through your intravenous to relax you and decrease anxiety while you are still awake. It is common to have trouble remembering what happened during your procedure, and/or feel tired for rest of the day. You must return home with a responsible adult who will remain with you overnight. You should not take public transit after the procedure. **With IV sedation, do not drive, use machinery or power tools or make important legal or financial decisions for the next 24 hours.**

Diet

There are no diet restrictions.

Activity

Avoid any strenuous exercise, lifting objects weighing more than 5 pounds or activity that may dislodge the PICC line.

Dressing

Keep your bandage dry. **Bandage must be changed within 24 hours of insertion. Following that your bandage change and line flushing will have to be done weekly.** You may bathe or shower on the next day after your procedure ensuring the site is covered so it does not become wet. **Do NOT swim or use a hot tub while you have a line inserted.**

Medication

Avoid taking medication containing aspirin or blood thinners for 24 hours after your procedure unless otherwise directed. Take pain medication, as prescribed, or you may take Acetaminophen (Tylenol®) (if no allergy) 1 – 2 tablets every 4 – 6 hours as needed for pain, up to a maximum of 4,000 mg in 24 hours. You may take your next pain medication at: _____.

Follow Up

If applicable Home and Community services will contact you to set up home care services. Call (905) 762-4028 if you do not hear from them in 24 hours. If instructed call the Medical Day Unit for follow up and care at 905-472-7068. **If your catheter becomes dislodged or broken apply pressure and clamp the catheter and call the Diagnostic Imaging Day Unit (905) 472-7373 ext.1521 (Mon-Fri 8:00am-3:00pm), after hours go to the Emergency Department.**

CALL YOUR DOCTOR DURING OFFICE HOURS OR GO TO THE NEAREST EMERGENCY DEPT. IF:

1. Fever over 38.5°C or 101.3°F, or shakes and chills
2. Increasing pain, redness, tenderness, swelling, bleeding or bruising at the PICC site or up the arm
3. Sudden onset of chest pain, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or heart rate over 100 bpm
4. Dizziness, light headedness or confusion, exhaustion, extreme weakness, sweating, pale/blue skin
5. Persistent nausea or vomiting

Diagnostic Imaging Day Unit 905-472-7373 ext. 1521 (Mon-Fri 8:00 am-3:00 pm)