

Angiogram Patient Information

Diagnostic Imaging
Southern Health

Dear _____

An appointment has been made for you to have an **ANGIOGRAM** at Monash Medical Centre as a day patient on _____

You are asked to present to the X – ray Reception, located in the Imaging Department, at 8.00 am with your Medicare card.

You will need to rest in the day ward after the procedure, lying flat for four (4) hours. You will also need to organise someone to drive you home afterwards.

Please bring any previous X rays with you including angiograms, ultrasounds and CT scans. You may wish to bring a book to read or a small radio with headphones.

PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS

1. You may have a light breakfast at 6.00 am of black tea or coffee and toast.
2. You may continue to drink clear fluids (not milk) until you come into the department
3. If you are diabetic and have not been seen in the pre – admission clinic, please contact us on Telephone: **9594 2179** as you may have to stop or change some of your medications.
Have a light breakfast. We will monitor your blood glucose during you stay with us.
4. If you are taking any blood thinning drugs such as WARFARIN, CLOPIDOGREL or HEPARIN, please contact the doctor who prescribed these medications or the Imaging Department on Telephone: **9594 2179** as you may need to STOP some of these before your test. Other blood thinning drugs can be prescribed by you doctor if necessary.
5. Continue ALL YOUR USUAL MEDICATIONS except for Lasix (Frusemide) on the morning of your test.
6. Please bring all your usual medications with you.
7. If you have any allergies please discuss these with your doctor. If you are allergic to IODINE or X RAY CONTRAST please contact the Imaging Department on Telephone: **9594 2179**
8. If you suffer from kidney failure, please discuss this with your referring doctor and contact the Imaging Department prior to your angiogram.

If you have any questions regarding your procedure or would like additional information related to your procedure, please contact the Imaging Department on Telephone: **9594 2179** between the hours of 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday.

THE PROCEDURE

When you arrive in Diagnostic Imaging, a nurse from the Recovery Ward will help you change into a gown and will take a brief history. She or he will prepare you for your test by taking your blood pressure and pulse, and shaving a small area in your groin. They will then insert a small plastic tube into a vein in your hand or arm.

Approved by Director November 2004

Date Revised November. 2005

Revision Due November 2007

Monash Medical Centre
Clayton Road
Clayton

Angiogram

Patient Information

Diagnostic Imaging
Southern Health

The doctor, called an Interventional Radiologist, will then explain your test to you in detail and answer any questions you have. You will also be asked to sign a consent form.

You may have seen a Vascular Surgeon prior to the procedure. The surgeon is usually not present at the time of the test, as the procedure is performed by the Radiologist.

You will be taken into the Angiography Room and placed on an X – ray table. The nurse will connect a blood pressure cuff and ECG monitor leads to your chest. Your groin area will then be washed with antiseptic solution and you will be covered with a long sterile drape.

The Radiologist will inject local anaesthetic into the groin area to make this area go numb. This may cause some discomfort for a few seconds. Occasionally the Radiologist may decide that it is better to use an artery in your arm rather than your leg.

You will be awake during the procedure as a general anaesthetic is only very rarely required.

WHAT IS AN ANGIOGRAM?

An angiogram is an X – ray study looking at your blood vessels, in particular your arteries, using X – rays. A specially trained X – ray doctor (Interventional Radiologist) performs the procedure. The doctor will insert a thin tube (catheter) into the artery and then they will inject X – ray dye (contrast) directly into the arteries. This makes the vessels visible when X – ray pictures are being taken.

The doctor can then determine how well the blood flows in your vessels, and if any more images need to be taken.

WHAT IS AN ANGIOPLASTY?

If you have an artery that is severely narrowed or even blocked, the Radiologist may decide that the narrowing should be opened up. A small tube (catheter) with a balloon at its tip is placed across the narrowing and blown up (inflated). This pushes the plaque causing the blockage to the side of the artery and allows more blood to flow through.

WHAT IS A STENT?

If the artery is completely blocked or the narrowing is very severe, the Radiologist may decide to place a Stent across the narrowing. This is like a small metal spring that holds the diseased area of the artery open. It remains in place forever, allowing more blood to flow through the artery.

WHAT DO I DO AFTER MY ANGIOGRAM

You will remain in the Recovery Ward or Day Treatment Centre for observation for at least four hours. Most patients having an angiogram are able to go home after the procedure as long as they have a friend or relative at home with them.

You must not drive yourself home or take public transport

Approved by Director November 2004

Date Revised November. 2005

Revision Due November 2007

Monash Medical Centre
Clayton Road
Clayton

Angiogram Patient Information

Please arrange in advance for someone to pick you up from hospital and stay overnight with you

It is advisable to wear loose clothing

Bed rest is advised for the rest of the day with no strenuous activity for 48 hours

Drink plenty of fluids for the next 24 hours

If bleeding from the puncture site occurs, apply firm pressure to the site for at least 10 minutes and call for assistance.

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS OR SIDE EFFECTS

- Allergic reaction to x – ray contrast
- Bruising at the puncture site
- Swelling or oozing at the puncture site
- Bleeding at the puncture site
- Very rarely clot may be dislodged from within a blood vessel, leading to blockage of the vessel downstream. This may require an emergency operation or use of a clot dissolving chemical to remove the clot
- If you are having an angiogram of the head or neck, there is a small risk of temporary or mild altered conscious state (drowsiness, confusion), arm or leg weakness, visual or speech disturbance

As with any medical procedure there is a risk of these rare complications occurring. This will be discussed with you more fully when you are seen by the Radiologist in the Day Ward or in the Day Treatment Centre.

If you are concerned or experience any side effects, please call the Imaging Department on 9594 2179 9.00 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday or the Emergency Department at Monash Medical Centre

Alternatively you may contact you Local Medical Officer or your nearest Hospital Emergency Department.

PLEASE FILL IN THIS FORM AND BRING IT WITH YOU

IT WILL HELP US LOOK AFTER YOU DURING YOUR STAY

Are you allergic to any medications, tapes or foods? Yes / No

If **Yes**, please list

.....

Have you had an X-ray or CT scan with an injection of dye? Yes / No

If **Yes**, did you have any reaction after the injection? Yes / No

Approved by Director November 2004

Date Revised November. 2005

Revision Due November 2007

Monash Medical Centre
Clayton Road
Clayton

Angiogram Patient Information

eg rash, difficulty breathing

Diagnostic Imaging
Southern Health

.....
Do you have diabetes?

If **Yes**, do you take insulin or tablets for your diabetes?

Insulin Type
Amount
Time taken

Tablets Type
Amount
Time taken

Do you suffer from asthma?

Yes / No

If **Yes**, do you take any medication for it?

Do you suffer from kidney failure or disease?

Yes / No

If **Yes**, are you on dialysis?

Yes / No

Do you know what your Renal Function tests are?

Yes / No

If **Yes**, please list them

Do you take any blood thinning agents? eg Aspirin, Warfarin, Cardiprin, Clopidogrel

If **Yes**, what type?

Do you have a special diet?

If **Yes**, please list your requirements

Do you suffer from any thyroid disease, Goiter or thyroid failure?

If **Yes** are you receiving treatment, please list medication

Please list all your medications and **BRING ALL MEDICATION WITH YOU ON THE DAY OF YOU TEST.**

PLEASE TAKE ALL OF YOUR MEDICATIONS ON THE MORNING OF YOUR TEST AS YOU USUALLY WOULD

“Respect, communication, involvement”

The staff of Diagnostic Imaging want to make sure that you have understood the information that we have provided personally, as well as the information contained in the information sheet. We believe your understanding about why and how we are planning to assist you is very important.

Approved by Director November 2004

Date Revised November. 2005

Revision Due November 2007

Monash Medical Centre
Clayton Road
Clayton