

Angioplasty

Patient Information Sheet

During the angioplasty, a thin flexible tube was inserted into one of your larger blood vessels. Through this catheter, the Radiologist injected contrast (x-ray dye) that traveled through the bloodstream and revealed any narrowing of the arteries. A small balloon was positioned in the narrowed artery and inflated to expand the artery and improve blood flow.

We are sensitive to your needs and concerns and want to let you know your safety and well-being are our primary concern. This information will help you understand the recovery process.

Instructions after Angioplasty

- Rest for the remainder of the day of your procedure.
- Have a responsible adult spend the night with you the night of your procedure.
- Do not drive for 24 hours following your procedure.
- Do not lift anything weighing over 5 kilograms (10 pounds) for 48 hours following your procedure.
- Do not participate in sports or strenuous activity for 48 hours following your procedure.
- If you must use stairs, climb with your good leg, and bring the other leg up to the step.

Diet

- You may eat what you normally eat.
- Drink plenty of fluids for the next 2 days to cleanse your body of the contrast dye.

Medications

- If needed for pain or discomfort, take Tylenol (acetaminophen) for 48 hours following your procedure. Follow the directions on the label.
- **Do not** use Aspirin or ibuprofen products, such as Advil or Motrin, as it may increase the chance bleeding.
- You may resume your routine medications, unless otherwise instructed by your doctor.



Dressing Care/Sutures

- Remove the gauze dressing (Band-Aid) 24 hours after your procedure.
- If a closure device was used, please refer to the Closure Device patient information pamphlet you were given.
- Check your groin or puncture site at least twice daily – in the morning and at night – for at least one week, if you notice increased swelling or bruising, contact your doctor immediately or go to the nearest emergency department.

Bathing

- You may shower tomorrow morning, but keep the bandage over the site dry for the next 24 hours or change if it gets wet.
- **Do not** bathe or swim (especially in lakes) for one week as this may lead to an infection.

What to watch for

- Difficulty breathing
- Chest pain
- Feeling unusually faint or light-headed
- Increasing redness, soreness, swelling, bruising, or discharge at the puncture site
- Unusual cramps, coolness, numbness, or discoloration of the legs
- Fever more than 100°F (38°C)
- Excessive bleeding

If any of these things happen call your Doctor or call Telehealth Ontario (1-866-797-0000), or go to your closest Emergency Department. Take this sheet with you.

What should you do if you are bleeding?

1. Lie down.
2. Apply firm pressure to the site for 5-10 minutes, or until bleeding has stopped.
3. If you are not able to stop the bleeding, call 911.

Please call as soon as possible for a follow up appointment with your referring doctor,

Dr. _____, to discuss the results of this procedure.

