

Information following your interventional
radiology procedure

Percutaneous Arterial Puncture



Within interventional radiology we perform minimally invasive procedures under local anaesthesia and sedation, allowing you to be awake throughout the procedure.

Percutaneous Puncture

Your procedure today involved access through one of your main arteries (either the groin or arm).

Care instructions following your procedure

Initially following the procedure we will monitor your vital signs (blood pressure, pulse, oxygen levels) and also the puncture site to check for any oozing, and haematoma formation (bruising). We will spray a film spray dressing over the puncture site. If there is any leakage or swelling, call for the nurse immediately and apply pressure as shown by the nurse in the x-ray department.

After the procedure you will need to lie flat for a number of hours. You may be in the radiology department or the ward. Gradually we will allow you to sit upright, but you will remain on bed rest. The length of time will depend on the nature of your procedure.

If access was through an artery in your arm, we may apply a sling to immobilise your arm for 24 hours.

You may be able to go home on the same day, or be kept in overnight.

If you have discomfort after the local anaesthetic or sedation wears off, a painkiller like paracetamol should be effective, and as long as you have no contraindications it is safe to take.

You should be able to start eating and drinking shortly after the procedure. The staff will tell you about this at the end of the procedure.

You should not undertake any strenuous activity and rest especially in the first 24 hours.

Returning to work will depend on the nature of the procedure and the nature of your work. Please discuss this with the radiologist.



For further Information

Contact the department where you had your procedure (Monday- Friday 9am - 5pm) or out of hours contact NHS 24 on 111.

