

After Angiography

Please read through these instructions on what to do after your procedure.

Generally, patients are discharged on the same day as an angiogram. A friend or relative will be required to take you home. You cannot drive yourself home. If required, you may be asked to remain in hospital.

It is recommended that prior to leaving the hospital you become familiar with how your groin wound looks. This will help you if there are any changes once you are at home, for example increased bright blood under your dressing or increased swelling.

Should problems with the groin occur, place your fingers over the groin wound and apply firm pressure for 15 minutes (this will be demonstrated to you). The moment you notice the blood call Dr Freeman or the Hospital or have someone call for you.

If you have had a device inserted to seal the artery after your angiogram, then you may feel a pea sized lump in your groin. This will eventually dissolve and be absorbed by the body. You will also receive an information card about your closure device.

Please do not bend, strain or lift heavy objects for the next 48 hours. You will be shown how to hold your groin with your fingers if you cough, sneeze, sit down or stand up. You will have a transparent dressing on your wound. This can be removed in the shower after 24 hours.

It is recommended that you have a warm (not hot) shower. Please contact the hospital or your GP if you notice any increase in redness, swelling, pain or discharge from your angiogram site. You should not drive a car for 24 hours.

Your nurse will guide you but generally you are encouraged to drink plenty of fluids over the next 24 hours. This helps to replace fluids after you have been fasting and helps to flush out the dye (contrast) used during your Angiogram.

Any changes to your medications will be discussed with you prior to your discharge. Please see your GP within the first week of going home. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to ask Dr Freeman or the nursing staff.