AGNESIAN HEALTHCARE

CARDIOVASCULAR LAB

A Patient Guide To A Fistulagram, And/Or A Dialysis Catheter Procedure

Procedure: _____ Date: _____

Arrival Time: _____ Physician Performing: _____

THE NIGHT BEFORE MY PROCEDURE:

- Do not eat or drink after: _____
- If you take insulin, decrease your night dose by: _____

THE MORNING OF MY PROCEDURE:

- If you take insulin, decrease your morning dose by: _____
- Take all of your morning medications with sips of water, EXCEPT: _____
- If you take Warfarin (Coumadin), have a contrast dye allergy or have impaired kidney function, follow these instructions: _____

  _____

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING WITH YOU TO YOUR PROCEDURE:

- You may want to bring a book or electronic device to entertain yourself while you wait for your procedure to start. Your start time may vary due to the length of procedures prior to yours, or if emergencies arise.
- A current list of your medications.
- Other instructions: _____
- Arrange transportation to the hospital and later that day to take you home. You may be given sedation and are not allowed to drive home.

Contact the Cardiovascular Cath Lab at (920) 926-5006 with questions.

Please arrive on time to check in at hospital registration, located by Café Coffee, just off the hospital lobby. The main entrance is located off Division Street by the stop and go lights.

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WHAT IS A FISTULAGRAM?

A fistulagram is a procedure done using X-ray imaging to check the blood flow in your fistula. Blood clots or blockages can be seen.

BEFORE THE PROCEDURE

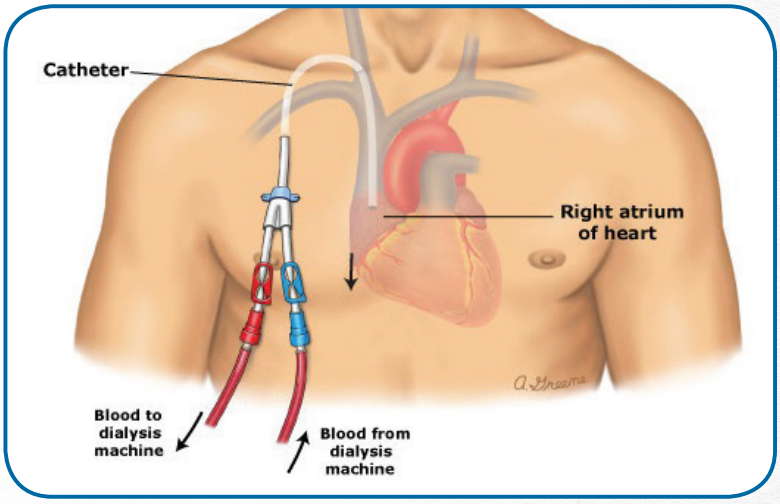
You will be taken to a pre-procedure room where your history and medications will be updated in your chart. Blood work may be drawn to check your blood levels and clotting times. An IV will be placed so that fluids and medications can be given during the procedure. The interventional radiologist (a physician who specializes in X-ray procedures) will come to see you.

DURING THE PROCEDURE

Your family will be taken to the waiting room and you will be taken to the procedure room. Equipment will be applied to monitor your vital signs and oxygen will be placed in your nose.

For a fistulagram: Your fistula site will be cleaned and the physician will numb the area using Lidocaine. Your fistula will then be accessed with small hollow tubes, just like at dialysis. Dye will then be injected through the tubes as X-ray pictures are taken. This allows the physician to see if there are clots or areas of narrowing. After the procedure is completed, the catheter will be removed from your fistula and manual pressure will be applied until the bleeding stops. Occasionally, the physician will find that your fistula is no longer functional. This would require placement of a dialysis catheter so that you can continue dialysis. This would be completed before you leave the procedure room.

For a dialysis catheter placement: A dialysis catheter is a soft, flexible tube that is placed in a large vein, either in your neck or in your groin area. The insertion site is cleaned and the area is numbed with Lidocaine. Ultrasound and X-ray are used to place the catheter into the correct spot in the vein. The tube is then sutured in place and a sterile dressing is applied.



Hemodialysis Catheter

AFTER THE PROCEDURE

You will be taken to one of the recovery rooms where you will stay for one to two hours depending on the results of your procedure. During this time, a nurse will monitor your vital signs and your procedure site.