MASS GENERAL INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY

PREPARING FOR YOUR PROCEDURE

PROCEDURE
• You are scheduled for a minimally invasive, image-guided procedure.
• Patients don’t typically need anesthesia or sedation for this type of procedure.
• We use a local anesthetic to numb the skin and keep you comfortable. It may cause a brief sting.

HOW TO PREPARE: BEFORE YOUR APPOINTMENT

TELL US IF YOU ARE SICK
• Please call us if you get sick (fever, cold, sore throat or flu) or hospitalized before your appointment.

7 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE:
• If you take any blood thinners such as aspirin, Coumadin, Eliquis, Plavix, Fragmin Xarelto or Lovenox, please call 781-487-6115. We will tell you how to hold your medicine.
• Always check with the clinician who prescribed the medication before you stop taking it. We will let you know when you can start taking it again.

HOW TO PREPARE: DAY OF YOUR APPOINTMENT

ARRIVING AT YOUR APPOINTMENT
• Your arrival time is 30 minutes before your appointment. Please check in at your arrival time. Together, we can prepare to begin on time.
• Emergencies can sometimes delay us. Thank you for your patience.

EATING & DRINKING
• You can eat and drink as you normally do.
• Drink lots of fluids to stay hydrated but stop all food and drink 3 hours prior to the procedure.

MEDICATIONS
• You can take your regular medications with sips of water, except blood thinners.
• Bring a list of your medications, including inhalers

PERSONAL CARE
• Wear loose, comfortable clothes.
• Don’t use body creams or lotions. They can interfere with preparation and monitoring devices.
• Take off any jewelry or piercings and leave your valuables at home.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU ARRIVE
• A member of the interventional radiology team explains the procedure and answers your questions.
• Different people may ask you the same questions for your safety.
• We also ask you to sign a consent form.

WHO PROVIDES YOUR CARE
• A member of the interventional radiology team performs your procedure at the request of your referring clinician.
• The team can include: an interventional radiologist, a nurse practitioner, a physician assistant.
• A nurse assists with monitoring, medications, support and recovery.
• A radiology technologist helps with the set up, equipment and images.

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RECOVERY & GOING HOME

- Most patients can go home 30 minutes after the procedure.
- You can drive home and don’t need an escort.
- We review home care instructions and answer any questions before you leave.

OTHER QUESTIONS

For any questions, call 781-487-6115, 7:30 am to 3:30 pm and ask to speak with a nurse. You can also leave a voicemail anytime for non-urgent questions.