



## MASS GENERAL INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY

# PREPARING FOR YOUR PROCEDURE

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## 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

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### 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

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### 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.

## 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.