

Patient Care After Catheterization Procedures

Diet: Resume previous diet.

Medication: Take your medication as prescribed, especially aspirin, plavix®, and/or coumadin®.

Activity: No pulling or lifting objects greater than ten pounds for two days. After any catheterization procedure, no vigorous activity that would cause shortness of breath or sweating until seen by your physician.

Wound Care: Keep site dry and clean. Allow dressing to fall off. The area may appear bruised and turn yellow over time. Call the office if a burning sensation of the foot or leg occurs, or if a knot appears at the puncture site, increases in size, turns red or becomes painful.

Take Your Medicine As Prescribed, Especially Aspirin, Plavix® and/or Coumadin®

Cardiac Stent

Failure to take your medication increases the risk of clotting, which may cause a heart attack. Watch for chest pain and shortness of breath.

Carotid Stent

Failure to take your medication increases the risk of clotting which could result in a stroke. Watch for a lack of sensation, visual changes, slurred or abnormal speech and/or inability to move an extremity.

Renal Stent/Mesenteric Stent

Failure to take your medication increases the risk of clotting and occlusion of the artery, possibly resulting in kidney failure or gangrene of the intestines. Watch for flank pain, abdominal pain and/or blood in urine.

Upper & Lower Extremity Stent

Failure to take your medication increases the risk of clotting. Watch for pain in the extremity, blue hand or foot, coolness of extremity or burning sensation. Loss of the leg or arm is possible.

If you have any of the symptoms described above, seek medical attention immediately.

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