

Extravasation of Contrast

Care instructions for patients

This brochure contains care instructions for you to follow at home. You have experienced 'extravasation of contrast' following your procedure. Contrast extravasation refers to the movement of fluid, administered intravenously, from veins into surrounding tissue.

Details of the contrast you received and last review of your arm before you went home, are listed below. Please take this letter with you if you need to see your doctor.

Date: _____

Time: _____

Contrast type: _____

Extravasation volume: _____

Site and appearance: _____

After you leave the Radiology Department, please follow these instructions to reduce discomfort to the affected arm:

- Continue to apply ice to the affected area; your arm may be tender and / or swollen. Leave the icepack in place for 15 minutes to 1 hour at a time. Do this 2-3 times a day. A bag of frozen vegetables is a good substitute if you do not have an icepack.
- Keep your affected arm elevated as much as possible for the next 4 hours.
- You should see your own Doctor or return to the Emergency Department of your local hospital if you have any of the following symptoms:
 - Increasing pain
 - Blistering of the skin
 - Redness or changes to skin colour
 - Increasing hardness of the site
 - Increase or decrease in the temperature of your affected arm
 - Altered or decreased sensation in your arm or fingers

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