

Diagnostic Cerebral angiogram aftercare

Information for patients who have undergone
Femoral puncture

Immediately following your procedure

Immediately following your procedure, the
Neurointerventionalist (doctor) will close your puncture site, by
either inserting an Angioseal or by putting pressure on the
wound for 10 minutes.

What is an Angioseal?

An **Angioseal** is a closure device that uses a collagen plug
inserted into the wall of the femoral artery (the largest artery in
the thigh) to stop the flow of blood. This will stay in place and
dissolve within 90 days. You will need to carry a card with you
(given to you upon discharge) during this period so that, in the
unlikely event that you need further treatment, other doctors
will know you that you have this device in place. No after care
of this is necessary.

If the doctor has inserted an Angioseal, you will need to lie flat
in your bed for 1-2 hours after the device has been inserted.
You will then gently move around the ward for one hour,
before being allowed to go home. We strongly recommend that
you have someone to stay overnight at home with you.

What if I don't have an Angioseal fitted?

If the doctor has pressed on your wound, they will apply pressure for 15 minutes. You will need to lie flat in your bed for 4 hours then gently move around the ward for a further two hours before you will be allowed to go home.

While you are recovering in your bed you will be asked to keep your head on the pillow. The bed can be elevated to a tilt of 30 degrees. You must keep your leg straight.

It is not advisable to put your chin on your chest, as this puts undue pressure on your groin and may make your puncture site bleed slightly.

During this recovery period you will be encouraged to press your hand over the puncture wound if you wish to cough, laugh or sneeze.

If your procedure was performed late in the day, you may need to stay overnight.

It is not advisable to drive yourself home.

What happens when I get home?

A transparent dressing, called a tegaderm, will be placed over your puncture site. This is transparent so that any bleeding from the wound can be seen clearly.

You may remove this dressing in the shower after two days. Let the water run over the wound and pat it dry. The wound should then be dry. If this is not the case and you have any cause for concern, please contact your GP for further advice.

To prevent infection, you are advised to shower and not to bathe for the next few days, so that you are not submerging the wound in water.

For 48 hours following your angiogram, you will be advised to take things a little easier than usual (e.g. no heavy lifting, deep squats, horse riding or cycling). You are also encouraged to increase oral fluid intake (water) post-procedure to help flush out the contrast used.

The results of your angiogram will be sent to you by post in around three weeks.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the department.

Telephone: **0131 312 0863**

Should you require out-of-hours advice, please contact **NHS 24** by phoning: **111**

If there is an immediate concern or emergency, please visit your local **Accident and Emergency (A&E) department** or **call 999** and ask for an ambulance.

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My Notes: