

Vascular embolisation - aftercare

Information for patients who have undergone **radial
puncture**

Immediately following your procedure

After your procedure, the doctor will close the puncture site on your wrist by the use of a TR band.

What is a TR Band?

A TR band is a band that the doctor will fit on your wrist. A small pouch will be inflated in the band with air from a syringe that applies pressure directly onto the puncture site. This will stop the bleeding.

You will be transferred back to our High Dependency Unit (HDU). During this time the staff will keep an eye on your wrist and reduce the air pressure in the band after 1 and then 2 hours, checking for bleeding.

If the bleeding has stopped after 2 hours the band may be removed but the staff in HDU will observe it overnight to make sure it does not start to bleed.

You will stay in our high dependency unit overnight as a routine part of your admission and you should not be concerned. It allows us to look after you in a room with fewer patients.

Looking after your wrist after you get home

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

Very occasionally bleeding can occur from the wound. If it does, apply pressure on the site. You should feel a pulse below your fingers. Bleeding should stop in about five minutes.

You may remove the dressing on your wrist 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. It is best not to have a bath until the wound has healed.

When can you return to work?

For 48 hours following your procedure you will be advised to take things a little easier than usual (e.g. no heavy lifting, vacuuming, gardening, strenuous exercises, etc.). You are also encouraged to increase oral fluid intake (water) post-procedure to help flush out the contrast used.

You can return to work within 1-2 weeks depending on your job. Please ask if you are concerned.

The Clinical Nurse Specialist will see you before you leave the ward if they are on duty and will answer any questions you have. They will also give you instructions for any medication you may have to take at home. If they are not available please do not hesitate to ask the ward staff before you go home.

You will be given a letter to give to your GP letting them know the procedure you have had with any information about your

medication and follow up scans. A more detailed letter from your consultant will follow in the post.

Contact information

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: