



PATIENT HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS

Following your catheterization procedure, your doctor closed the opening in the artery in your groin with a Perclose device. The procedure placed a stitch (or stitches) in the femoral artery. The device was introduced through a small incision, approximately 1/8 to 1/2 inch, in your groin. The following instruction will guide you on how to care for the site, as well as provide other helpful information.

Care of your incision

- You may shower 24 hours after the procedure. Remove the bandage from the hospital before showering. If steri-strips (thin strips of tape across the incision) are in place, allow them to remain in place until they fall off on their own.
- Gently clean site daily using soap and water while standing in the shower. Dry thoroughly.
- You may apply an antibacterial ointment, (i.e. Neosporin). Otherwise cleaning the site with soap and water is sufficient. Do not apply powders or lotion.
- Cover the site with a bandaid or dressing that covers the entire area. A square adhesive bandaid seals well.
- Keep the site clean and dry to prevent infection. If the bandage becomes wet, remove that one and place a new one.
- Do not sit in a bathtub or pool of water for 5 days or until wound has healed.
- Inspect the site daily.

Activity

- You may resume normal activity in 2 days, including driving, letting pain be your guide.
- Limit lifting over 10 pounds of one week or until wound heals.

Normal Observation

- Soreness or tenderness that may last one week.
- Mild oozing from incision site.
- Possible bruising that could last 2 weeks.
- Formation of a small lump (dime to quarter size) which may last up to 6 weeks.

Call doctor immediately if you experience any of the following..

- Significant bleeding does not stop after 10 minutes of applying firm pressure directly on incision.
- Increased swelling of groin or leg.
- Unusual pain at groin or down that leg.
- Signs of infection: redness, warmth to touch, drainage (other than a little blood on the bandage), poorly healing incision, fever, or chills.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

