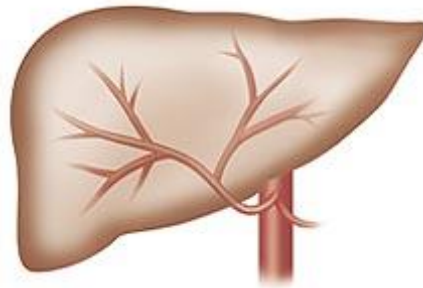


**Interventional Radiology
Patient Discharge Education
Preparatory Angiogram for Radioembolization Therapy (SirSpheres and Theraspheres)**

Radioembolization is used to treat primary liver cancer and other cancers that have metastasized to the liver. The preparatory angiogram is performed to map out the veins and arteries of the liver and block those that leave the liver and go to other organs. This is done to prevent radioactive beads from traveling to other organs when the treatment dose is given (at your next visit).



Using x-ray guidance, a small catheter is inserted into an artery, usually in the upper thigh region, and fed up to the liver. Special dye is first injected which allows pictures to be taken and the vessels surrounding the tumor to be visualized. Platinum coils are then placed in certain vessels the doctor feels are necessary.

Diet: There are no dietary restrictions specifically due to this procedure. If you had restrictions prior due to other treatments or diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, or renal disease, continue with these.

Drink 6 to 8 glasses of liquid each day. Or, follow your caregiver's advice if you must limit the amount of liquids you drink. Good liquids to drink are water, juices, and milk.

Medications

- You may restart your usual medications unless you have been told otherwise.
- It is not yet time to start the prescriptions given to you in your consultation visit. These will not be started until after “part 2” or the treatment procedure.
- If taking Glucophage (Metformin), this must be held for 2 days following this procedure.

Site Care

- Leave the dressing on for 24 hours, then you may remove and shower.
- Do not put any medicines on the wound.
- Replace band-aid until wound is closed, usually 24-48 hours.
- Do not soak wound (tub bath, swimming, Jacuzzi) until wound is completely healed (around 72 hours).

Activity

- You may drive yourself in 24 hours.
- No heavy lifting/moving, exercise, sports, stair climbing, or sex until wound is completely healed (around 72 hours).
- Avoid “L” shape sitting until wound is healed.
- Avoid tight-fitting clothes until wound is healed.

EXPECTED SIDE EFFECTS:

- You may have side effects from the medications used during the procedure to keep you comfortable. Many describe this feeling as a slight "hang-over". Nausea may occur due to these medications but usually does not last longer than 12-24 hours.
- Aside from this and soreness at the catheter insertion site, you should not have many side effects.

Special Precautions

There are no special precautions following the preparatory angiogram. You do not need to use radiation safety precautions until after the treatment procedure (part 2).

Follow-up

- If you are not already scheduled for your treatment procedure, you will be called shortly after this procedure to discuss open dates. Please call us at 650-736-9081 if you have not heard from us within 1 week.
- You will again need labs within 3 days of the treatment procedure. **See your radioembolization folder for orders**

When to Get Medical and Emergency Help:

Call our RN triage line at 650-736-9081:

If you have a temperature over 101.0°F

If you have new pain or symptoms you are concerned about

Your nausea is so severe you cannot keep down any food or fluids

You have questions about your treatment or new prescriptions

You have pain where the catheter was placed that is worsening more than improving

Go to your nearest Emergency Room:

Your catheter site starts bleeding and will not stop after 10 minutes of firm pressure

You have shaking chills or a temperature over 102°F

Interventional Radiology Contact Information

Office Hours 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Post procedure questions and RN Triage:

Phone: **650-736-9081**

Fax: 650-736-7734

Email: irprocedure@stanfordmed.org – non urgent concerns only

Clinic

Phone: **650-723-3893**

Fax: 650-725-0533

Email: irclinic@stanfordmed.org – email is for non urgent appointment requests only

For all After Hours Urgent/Emergent issues:

Call the Stanford *Page Operator*: **650-723-6661**

Ask for the IR MD ON Call (pager # 27237)