

ASCENSION ST VINCENTS PARACENTESIS AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS

Who Performed Your Procedure:

Aftercare Instructions:

- A bandage will be applied over the procedure site. Skin glue may also be applied to the site. You may remove the bandage 24 hours after your procedure, however, allow the skin glue to flake off on its own (do not pick it off). You may shower and allow water to flow over the site 24 hours after your procedure, however, do not submerge the site in water (bath, pool, hot tub or ocean) until the site has healed. Do not apply lotion/ointment to the site until it has healed unless instructed to do so.
- If you were provided with an ice pack, apply it to the procedure site periodically for 20-30 minutes after your procedure.
- Avoid strenuous physical activity for at least 24 hours then increase your activity level as tolerated.
- It is normal to experience discomfort / mild pain and bruising after your procedure. You can take acetaminophen (Tylenol) for the first 6-8 hours after your procedure. After 6-8 hours, you may switch to aspirin, ibuprofen (Motrin) or naproxen (Aleve) if acetaminophen is not adequately decreasing your pain. It is safe to take aspirin, ibuprofen or naproxen within 6-8 hours after your procedure, however you may experience more bruising if you do so.
- Contact Radiology or your ordering clinician if you have any concerns or experience any of the following after your procedure: continued bleeding, significant swelling, severe pain not responding to over-the-counter medications, signs of possible infection (significant redness or purulent drainage from the site, severe pain, fever or chills), shortness of breath and/or chest pain that is worse than normal for you, dizziness / lightheadedness when standing or a faster than normal heart rate.
- Weekdays 8 am to 5 pm call 308-8401 (Riverside), 296-3886 (Southside), 602-1360 (Clay), 691-1297 (St Johns) or Optimal Imaging (450-6960). Weekdays 5 pm to 10 pm or weekends 6 am to 10 pm call 308-8401. If outside of these hours, call the hospital operator at 308-7300 and ask to speak to the Interventional Radiologist on call.

How Do I Receive Procedure Results?

- Some paracentesis procedures produce samples which are sent for laboratory analysis. Results can take up to 5 days to become available. Please contact your clinician's office to obtain results and for follow-up instructions.