

INSTRUCTIONS

DIALYSIS SURGERY

Be in Admissions at Pennsylvania Hospital at: _____

The procedure is schedule to start approximately: _____

You must be on time or your procedure may be postponed until later in the day or even cancelled.

The exact timing of cases starting after 8 AM is highly unpredictable

If you have the following problems, you must inform your doctor before the test:

Allergies to dye: If you have a known allergy to dye (contrast), you should let the doctor know. If so, we will give you steroids (Prednisone) before the test to prevent this reaction.

Blood-thinning medications: If you are taking Coumadin or Plavix, you should let the doctor know. We will stop these medications several days before the test to prevent bleeding.

- 1) Day of surgery: nothing by mouth after midnight (except medications with sips of water - check with your primary care physician or anesthesiologist or cardiologist)

- 2) Most patients will be able to be discharged the same day of surgery.

- 3) Expect to feel somewhat tired and slightly sore for a few days. This is normal.

- 4) Try to walk at least three times a day, inside or outside, once you are home.

- 5) Showering or bathing is acceptable the day after surgery. You may remove the dressing the day after surgery before you bathe or shower.

- 6) Call the office if more than a minor amount of fluid drains from your incision.

- 7) If removable sutures or staples are used (you will see them above the skin), they will need to be removed in 2-3 weeks.

- 8) Swelling of the arm is common and can be treated with an ace bandage from the hand to the shoulder.

Questions call Kelly 215-829-5005