

INSTRUCTIONS

STENT GRAFT AORTIC SURGERY

Be in Admissions at Pennsylvania Hospital at 800 Spruce ST 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.

Kidney problems: If you have known kidney problems (renal failure, elevated creatinine), we may give you medication to prevent further problems.

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.

Metformin (glucophage): We will need to stop this 1-2 days before the procedure.

- 1) Day before surgery: liquids allowed but no solid foods, milk or ice cream.
- 2) Day of surgery: nothing by mouth after midnight (except medications with sips of water - check with your primary care physician or anesthesiologist or cardiologist)
- 3) Most patients will be able to be discharged the first day after surgery.
- 4) You should call the office 215-829-5000 when you get home for a follow-up appointment to be scheduled approximately one week later. Tell the office you also need an ultrasound of the aorta to be done in the office the same day as your appointment *if these tests can be fit in the same day.*
- 5) Expect to feel somewhat tired and slightly sore for a few days. This is normal.
- 6) Try to walk at least three times a day, inside or outside, once you are home.
- 7) Showering or bathing is acceptable after you are home.
- 8) Constipation is common. Take over the counter laxatives that can be bought at any pharmacy.
- 9) Call the office if more than a minor amount of fluid drains from your incision.

Questions call Kelly 215-829-5005