What should I do and not do when I get home?

It is normal to have a bruise and soreness where the angiogram catheter went in. You may have skin glue on the puncture site. This is meant to keep the site clean. Let the glue peel off on its own. Do not remove it yourself.

Do not drive for 2 days after your test, and limit the amount of walking up and down stairs.

Do not lift more than 5 pounds (about a half gallon of milk) for 10 days.

Do not do strenuous exercise for 2 weeks. This can cause bleeding at the puncture site, which can be dangerous.

Start taking your regular medicines, unless we tell you differently. If you take Metformin, wait for 48 hours after your test to start taking it again.

You will get a call from a radiology nurse who will check on you.

If you have pain, take:

- ibuprofen (200 to 400 mg) every 6 hours, as needed, or
- Tylenol (500 mg) every 6 hours, as needed. Don’t take more than 2,000 mg of Tylenol a day.

If you bleed from the puncture site, apply pressure to the bleeding site. Go immediately to the nearest emergency room.

How do I know if I am having problems?

Call your doctor right away if you have:

- a fever higher than 101° F or chills
- pain that is not controlled by pain medicine
- pain that suddenly gets worse or changes in any other way
- swelling at the groin puncture site
- trouble walking or you are not able to walk
- weakness, numbness, or trouble moving your leg
- any questions about your treatment.

Who can I contact with questions?

For any problems, concerns, or questions, call Interventional Oncology at (615) 343-9206. After hours (between 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on weekdays, and on weekends and holidays), call (615) 322-5000. Ask for the Interventional Radiology Fellow on call.

If you have an emergency, go to the nearest Emergency Room or call 9-1-1.