PARACENTESIS
Discharge Instructions

You had a Paracentesis (drainage of fluid from your abdominal cavity) today.

Limit activity for the next 12 hours and relax.

You may resume your normal diet.

You may resume your normal medications.

Keep the area clean, dry and covered for the next 24 hours.

There may be some leaking from the site. If this occurs, change the dressing as needed. You may also try lying on the opposite side of the leaking site, as tolerated, until the leaking stops or slows.

Notify your primary physician and/or Radiologist IMMEDIATELY if any of the following occur:

- Fever of 101° F (38 ° C) or chills
- Swelling and or redness in the area of the puncture site
- Excessive leaking from the site
- Dizziness or lightheadedness

Physician Contact Information

- If you should have a problem that you feel requires immediate attention, you should either call 911 or go to the emergency room, either at Lansdale Hospital or the closest hospital. If you feel that your problem can safely wait until you speak to a physician, you should contact your doctor or radiologist.
- If you have concerns that need to be answered by the Radiologist, you can reach him/her as follows:
  - During regular weekday hours (7:30am to 4:00pm), call 215-481-2040
  - During off hours for emergencies call 215-481-2000 and ask the hospital operator to contact the Interventional Radiologist on-call.

I hereby acknowledge that I have received and understand the instructions given to me.

________________________________________________________
PATIENT SIGNATURE

________________________________________________________
STAFF SIGNATURE

DATE TIME