

CHEMOEMBOLIZATION DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS

- During your hospitalization you underwent a procedure known as “Chemoembolization” for a tumor in your liver. Chemotherapy drugs, “Cancer drugs”, and particles were injected directly into the artery to your liver in an effort to kill the tumor.
- Over the next week, you may experience abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, and fever up to 101 ° Fahrenheit. You will be sent home with medication to help with these symptoms as well as an antibiotic to help prevent infection. You may also, develop fluid build-up “swelling” in your legs and abdomen. This should go away in about 2-3 weeks.
- You should resume your normal diet and normal activities as tolerated.
- You may resume your normal medications. However, if you take any blood thinning medications, such as anticoagulants, aspirin, or NSAIDS, refrain from taking them for 24 hours post procedure.
- **Notify your primary physician and/or Radiologist IMMEDIATELY if any of the following occur:**
 - a. Fever of 101.5 ° F (38.5 ° C) with shaking and/or chills**
 - b. Lightheadedness, dizziness, or feeling faint**
 - c. Severe right upper quadrant pain (under your rib cage)**
 - d. Nausea/vomiting not relieved with medication**

- You are being sent home with the following medications:

Percocet 5/325mg or Dilaudid 2mg (Pain Medication)

The generic name of Percocet is Oxycodone/APAP and the generic name for dilaudid is hydromorphone. Take 1-2 tablets every 4-6 hours as needed for breakthrough pain. Please call the office if this combined with Motrin is not relieving your pain. This medication may also cause constipation.

Augmentin 500mg tablets (Antibiotic to prevent infection)

Take one tablet every 12 hours for 5 days after the procedure.

If you have a penicillin allergy, you will be given Ciprofloxacin 500mg instead. Please follow the same instructions for Cipro.

Compazine 10mg tabs or Zofran 4 mg (for nausea)

Compazine: Take one tablet every six hours if needed to relieve nausea.

Zofran: Take one tablet every eight hours if needed to relieve nausea.

Constipation Management

The medications you were given during your procedure and hospital stay, as well as, you discharge pain medications, tend to cause constipation. ***Constipation in the days after your procedure will increase your abdominal discomfort.*** Please follow these instructions to keep your bowel function regular after your procedure:

- Drink plenty of liquids to keep your body hydrated and to help keep your bowels functioning properly.
- **Take Colace 100mg capsules (stool softener to prevent constipation).** The generic name for this medication is ducosate sodium. Take one table every 12 hours while you are taking any narcotic pain medication.

If you have not had a bowel movement within 24-35 hours after your procedure: **Take 2 tablets of Senekot-S (over the counter) at bedtime.**

If you have not had a bowel movement by the next morning (day 2):
Take 2 more tablets of Senekot-S in the morning

If you have not had a bowel movement by midday (on day 2): **Take 2 tablespoons of Milk of Magnesia at dinnertime and at bedtime.**

If you have not had a bowel movement by the next morning (day 3):
Please contact us for further instructions at (215) 481-6226 or follow the instructions below for after hour contact information.

Follow up Care:

You will need to have your blood drawn in 3 weeks and return to our office in one month for further treatment and/or follow-up with a scan, once your treatment is completed.

Physician Contact Information

- **If you have a problem that requires immediate attention, you should go to the emergency room, either at Abington Memorial Hospital or the closest hospital, or call 911.**
- Our office is open Monday through Friday (except major Holidays) from 7:30 AM to 4:00PM. We can be reached at 215-481-6226.
- If you are unable to reach our office and you have an urgent need, please call the following:
 - ***During regular weekday hours*** (except major Holidays) from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM, call **215-481-2071**. Press **#1 for outpatient needs** and **#3 to speak with a Radiology Nurse.**
 - ***For after hour emergencies*** call **215-481-2000** and ask the hospital operator to contact the Interventional Radiologist on-call.

Staff Signature _____ Date _____

Patient Signature _____ Date _____