



Pre-procedure information

It is important that the following information is reviewed prior to arriving for your procedure. Failure to do so could result in having to reschedule your procedure.

- It is not appropriate to perform certain procedures while you are on anticoagulation medication secondary to the risk of bleeding and complications.

For patients that are to receive **any form of epidural steroid injections (transforaminal, interlaminar, caudal), discograms, spinal cord stimulator trial lead placement, sympathetic blocks, celiac plexus/inferior hypo gastric blocks, cervical/thoracic/lumbar facet joint injections and medial branch blocks/radiofrequency ablation:**

Patients are to stop blood thinners such as:

Coumadin (Warfarin) **5** days prior - PT/INR will be checked the day of the procedure
Clopidogrel (Plavix) **7** days prior
Ticlodipine (Ticlid) **10** days prior
Effient (Prasugrel) **7** days prior
Pradaxa (Dabigatran) **4** days prior

Clearance to stop this medication must come from either the PCP or the treating physician (whoever is writing for the medication). **Do NOT stop the medication without consulting with the prescribing physician first.**

- Nothing to eat or drink 8 hours prior to epidural steroid injections (transforaminal, interlaminar, caudal), discograms, spinal cord stimulator trial lead placement, sympathetic blocks, celiac plexus/inferior hypo gastric blocks. It is ok to take your regular medications with a sip of water. Failure to follow this will necessitate that we reschedule your procedure.
- These particular procedures usually require that you have a driver to drive you home. Please plan accordingly. If you have questions regarding a driver please feel free to call the clinic prior to the day of your scheduled injection/procedure.



- If you have a fever, recent infection, etc. we will have to reschedule the procedure for a later time. You will need to be off of antibiotics (if they were given for your infection) for a minimum of **7 days** prior having the procedure completed. Please contact our office before your scheduled procedure if this is the case.
- Please arrive 30-60 minutes in advance of your procedure to complete the appropriate paperwork and have an IV placed (if indicated).
- For all other injections (other than what is listed above) there is no need to hold any medications or refrain from eating prior to having the procedure performed.

We look forward to working with you towards your goal of a more pain free state.