



## **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.**