

After Carotid Artery Stenting: In the Hospital



After carotid artery stenting, you will most likely stay overnight in the hospital for care and monitoring. At home, follow your healthcare provider's instructions for recovery. Be sure to keep your health appointments. This includes any imaging tests and other follow-up treatments. They can help make the procedure a success.

Just after the procedure

After the procedure, you can expect the following:

- You will be taken to the recovery room for observation.
- A nurse will watch your vital signs, your neurological signs, and the injection site while you are in the recovery room.
- Once your blood pressure, pulse, and breathing are stable and you are alert, you may be taken to the intensive care unit (ICU) or a regular hospital room.
- If the sheath was left in the insertion site, it will be taken out of the groin or arm at the right time.
- After the sheath is taken out, a nurse will put pressure directly to the site either manually or with a clamp-type device for about 20 minutes. After bleeding has stopped completely, a tight dressing will be put on the site.
- You may need to keep your leg straight for 2 to 6 hours. It's very important that you keep your leg or arm with the catheter site straight during this time.
- You may be given medicine for pain or discomfort from the injection site or from having to lie flat and still for a long time.
- After the period of bed rest is done and there is no bleeding from the injection site, you may get out of bed. The nurse will help you the first time. They will check your blood pressure while you are lying, sitting, and standing.

Your hospital stay



While you are in the hospital, you can expect the following:

- You'll be closely monitored until you're ready to go home.

- Hospital staff will check your pulse, blood pressure, and neurologic function from time to time.
- You may also have tests of your brain function, blood tests, or an ultrasound.
- Your IV will stay in place until shortly before you go home.

When can you leave the hospital?

Most people leave the hospital the next day. You can go home when:

- Your condition is stable
- You don't have weakness or numbness in either your legs or arms
- The groin insertion site is not bleeding or swollen
- You have no signs of infection
- You have no headache or swings in your blood pressure or pulse
- Your healthcare provider has reviewed any test results and has cleared you to go home

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