

Patient Care after an Electrophysiology Procedure



What should I expect after we leave the hospital?

Once home your child should feel close to normal. It is common over the next couple days to also:

- Be slightly more tired or irritable than usual.
- Have mild nausea, vomiting or decreased appetite.
- Feel sore or bruised where the catheter had been placed.
- Have a low-grade temperature, under 101.5°F, during the first 24 hours.

Call immediately if you see the following:

- **Bleeding at the catheterization site(leg): Apply firm pressure one inch above the bleeding site for 10 minutes.**
 - Severe pain, redness or swelling at the procedure bandage site
 - Breathing faster than normal, trouble breathing, or shortness of breath
 - Not eating or drinking
 - Frequent vomiting or diarrhea
 - Not behaving or moving normally
 - Swollen or puffy hands or feet
 - Child's skin color is bluer or paler than usual
 - Legs are cold or blue in color
 - Fever higher than 101.5°F or 38.5°C
 - Dizziness, fainting, or falling for no reason
 - Chest pain
- Call the Cath Lab at **(323)361-4635** during business hours: Mon-Fri 6:30am-5:00pm
- After business hours:
- call the main hospital number at **(323) 660-2450**
 - ask for the on-call cardiologist if you are a CHLA patient
 - or call your own cardiologist.

Catheterization Site:

- Keep dressings on for 24 hours.
- Remove **all** dressings **24 hours after** the procedure.
- Your child may shower the day after the procedure.
- After 72 hours, your child may take a bath.
- Keep area clean and dry. Change diapers more frequently for first 3 days to keep site clean.

Activities:

- *Today*, your child may do quiet activities. **Only walk when needed** (i.e. to use the restroom). **Avoid** running, climbing stairs or kicking.
- *Tomorrow*, your child may go back to most normal activities, but should not run, swim or play sports for one week.
- *In one week*, your child may go back to all activities.

Diet:

- Your child may return to their regular diet.

School:

- Keep your child home from school for one day after the procedure.

Medications:

- You may give your child Acetaminophen (Tylenol) or Ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil) as needed to help with the normal discomfort and low-grade fever that may occur in the first 24 hours after the procedure.
- Give your child's regular medications as ordered by the doctor.

Appointments:

- ✓ Call to schedule an appointment with your child's cardiologist as instructed on your discharge paperwork. For CHLA Cardiology clinic call (323)-361-2461.

Questions or Problems?

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please call your child's cardiologist.

***After hours, please call the hospital directly at **(323) 660-2450** and have the operator call the on-call Cardiologist. For emergencies call 911 or go to the nearest Emergency Room.