
Yale New Haven Health

Emergency Services, Yale new Haven Hospital

Emergency Department Blood Patch Coverage

Guideline

Original: 10/2015

Last Reviewed: 7/2018

Purpose:

To provide care guidelines for the management of LP dural leak in the emergency department.

Guidelines for Care:

- After ED attending evaluation, if a post LP dural leak is considered and a blood patch is felt to be indicated, the pain med pager (found in amion) should be called.
- The pain service resident will consult on patients whenever requested.
- Consulting resident, in conjunction with attending, will evaluate for appropriateness of procedure.
 - If procedure is found to be indicated but technically difficult, the pain service will contact neurointerventional radiology service to arrange procedure.
 - After consult if pain service agrees a blood patch is indicated, every effort will be made to perform procedure during ED visit.
- Given nonemergent nature of procedure, if resources for procedure are not available an appointment will be made for procedure as outpatient within 24 business hours.
 - Outpatient appointments will only be available during business hours on weekdays.
 - Alternatively, if patient is unable to tolerate discharge until out patient appointment, they may be placed on medical observation status and procedure will be performed within 12 hours of request.
- Please note that this policy does not apply to post partum dural leaks. For these patients please call the OB anesthesia service.