

IV CONTRAST EXTRAVASATION DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS

During your procedure, intravenous (IV) contrast leaked out of your vein into the surrounding tissue around your IV site. In many cases, this is not serious. Please follow these instructions to facilitate re-absorption of the extravasated contrast from your arm.

- When possible, elevate the affected arm above the level of the heart to help decrease swelling.
- Continue to apply cold compresses for 15 minutes every 6 hours for 24 – 48 hours, depending on the severity of your symptoms.

Swelling or redness at the IV puncture site can last for 1 to 2 days.

It is common to feel a dull ache in the affected area until your arm reabsorbs the contrast.

The contrast will be absorbed back into your system and then be excreted through your kidneys. Your arm should return to normal within a few days.

You should notify the radiology department or your doctor if you experience any of the following:

- Increased swelling
- Increased pain that does not improve over time
- Blistering at the site
- Numbness or tingling of the lower arm or hand
- Unusual coolness of the lower arm or hand
- Redness or streaks at the injection site

A nurse will be following up with you every day until your symptoms resolve. For additional questions or concerns, contact our department at **(646) 962-7057** to speak to a clinician.

If you experience any of the bulleted symptoms listed above and cannot reach a nurse or physician, call your own physician, or seek emergency medical treatment at your local emergency room.