

CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION

POST-PROCEDURE INSTRUCTIONS

1. You will need someone to drive you home from the hospital.
2. Limit your physical activity for 48 hours. Avoid lifting any heavy objects.
3. You may experience some discomfort at the catheter site. This can usually be relieved with Tylenol, taking 1 or 2 tablets every for (4) hours.
4. You may experience some swelling or bruising at the catheter site. This will improve in a few days and should be of no concern.
5. If you experience active bleeding at the catheter site, lie down and press **FIRMLY** immediatley above the catheter site. **HAVE SOMEONE CALL 911 OR DRIVE YOU TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM.**
6. Resume taking your medications on their usual schedule.
7. If you are diabetic and taking Glucophage, do not resume until instructed by your cardiologist.
8. Call the doctor's office if you have any of the following symptoms:
 - Increasing swelling or a small amount of bleeding at the catheter site.
 - Chest pain or shortness of breath
 - Numbness, coldness or pain of the extremity used for catheterization.