

INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURE PRE-ADMISSION FACT SHEET



Peter Mac
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre
Victoria Australia

DEPARTMENT OF ACUTE & PERSISTENT PAIN

This fact sheet aims to answer some general questions about your upcoming procedure. Please read the following information carefully. If you need further information about your particular procedure, please ask your doctor or pain nurse.

Before Your Procedure

1. **Time of Admission:** You will receive a phone call and a letter stating the date and time of admission, which is usually between 7 am and 7:30 a.m. Please note that the time stated on your letter is not the same as your procedure time.

If you cannot attend, call Theatre on 03 8559 5650 from Monday to Friday between 8:30am and 4:00pm and

follow the telephone prompts. Alternatively call the Pain Nurse via the switch board. If after hours, weekends or public holidays, call Switchboard on 03 8559 5000 and ask for the Patient Services Manager.

2. **Interpreter Service:** If you need an interpreter on the day of your procedure, please let your doctor know in advance.

On the Day of Your Procedure

1. **Fasting:** You will need to fast for 6 hours before your scheduled admission time. You may drink a small amount of clear fluids e.g. water, black tea/coffee for up to 2 hours before your admission time. It is important that you do not drink alcohol or smoke on the day of your procedure.

2. **Medications:** You can take your medications as normal with a sip of water, unless you informed otherwise. Some patients are required to omit certain medications prior to their

procedure (such as blood thinners or diabetes medications) - your doctor would have informed you of this. Bring all your medication with you when you come for the procedure. Please bring these with you in their original box/bottle as given to you by your pharmacy or supplier, where possible.

3. **What to Bring:** Wear comfortable clothes and shoes to the hospital. You will also need the following:

- Appointment letter
- Medicare card

- Health care card
- Pacemaker/Implanted Cardiac Device information card
- Private health insurance card
- Pharmaceutical safety net card
- Pensioner concession card
- Department of Veterans Affairs of Repatriation card
- Ambulance membership card
- Something to pass the time e.g. book, knitting, crossword puzzles etc.
- Eye glasses and case (if you wear them)
- Hearing aid (if you wear one)
- Walking or mobility aid (if needed)

4. **What Not to Bring:** Please remove all jewellery and body piercings, nail polish and/or fake nails, make-up and hair clips/hairpins. Please do not bring any

After Your Procedure

1. **Recovery:** After your procedure, you will rest in our recovery area. Our nurses will look after you during this time. You will be asked to get dressed once you are well enough.

2. **Discharge from Hospital:** Our nurses will contact your support person and let them know how you are and when to come to collect you. They will also give you discharge instructions.

As part of your procedure, you will be given an anaesthetic and/or sedative. The effects of this can still be in your bloodstream and cause you to feel lightheaded or dizzy.

valuables or large amounts of money. Peter Mac is unable to take responsibility for lost items or money.

5. **Who to Bring:** You can bring one support person with you to the hospital. This person will also need to collect you after your procedure and take you home.

6. **Where to Go:** Attend Theatre reception located on level 6. Our staff and nurses here will assist you with your admission and help you prepare for your procedure.

7. **Waiting Times:** There will be a wait between your admission time (time stated on your letter) and your procedure time. We always try to make your wait as short as possible. We will keep you up-to-date and tell you if your procedure time is going to be delayed.

For this reason, you must have a responsible adult to collect you from Recovery, take you home and stay with you overnight.

For 24 to 48 hours after your procedure, you should not:

- drive a car
- operate heavy machinery
- drink alcohol
- cook
- be home alone
- sign any legal documents.

3. **Follow Up:** You may need to attend a follow-up appointment - these details

will be provided to you before you go home or you may be contacted later.

4. **When to Call Us:** Please call us if you experience any of the following:

- pain which is getting worse
- you have chills, sweats or are feeling unusually cold
- a temperature above 38 degrees or below 36 degrees
- a rapid heartbeat or fast breathing

- unusual tenderness, swelling or redness around the wound
- vomiting or diarrhoea
- unable to eat or drink for more than 24 hours
- unusual or non-stop bleeding.

Please call Switchboard on 03 8559 5000 from Monday to Friday and ask for the pain nurse, or if after hours, weekends or public holidays, ask for the Patient Services Manager.