



# Contrast Extravasation – Outpatient Information

During your procedure, some of the contrast dye leaked from the blood vessel into the surrounding tissues. This is called contrast extravasation.

Gravity may move this extra fluid down into your arm or hand which may cause swelling. A little swelling is normal and is generally absorbed by the body over a few days

You may have some pain or discomfort at the needle site over the next few days.

Please follow the steps below:

- Try to keep your arm elevated for the next 48 hours.
- If you have pain, hold an ice pack to the area: 15 minutes on, and then 15 minutes off while awake.
- Place a thin, dry towel between the skin and ice pack to prevent frostbite.
- Do not wear tight clothing over the affected area.

**Call your doctor (GP) if the pain gets worse or you experience any other problems.**

Check the injection site and arm for:

- Increased pain or swelling.
- Blisters or blanching (skin that turns white or changes colour).
- Tingling or loss of feeling in the arm.
- Redness, including redness that goes up your arm.

**If you have any of these signs or are worried, call your GP for an urgent appointment or attend the nearest Emergency Department as soon as you can.**

**If out of hours contact: Healthdirect Australia on 1800 022 222, or go to a hospital emergency department.**

For further information during working hours Monday to Friday you can call:

\_\_\_\_\_ Hospital Medical Imaging (Radiology) Department on \_\_\_\_\_