UW Medicine

After Your IVC Filter Is Removed

Important self-care instructions

This handout gives important self-care instructions to follow after your IVC filter is removed.

For 24 Hours

• The medicine that you were given to make you sleepy will stay in your body for several hours. It could affect your judgment. Because of this, until the day after your procedure, or for 24 hours:



24 hours after your procedure.

- Do not drive a car.
- Do not use machinery or power tools.
- Do not drink alcohol.
- Do not take medicines such as tranquilizers or sleeping pills.
- You may be lightheaded or feel dizzy. We strongly advise you to do only light activities and get plenty of rest.
- Eat as usual, if you can. If you cannot eat at first, slowly add foods that you can handle.
- Drink lots of fluids.
- You may resume taking your usual medicines, unless your doctor tells you otherwise.
- You may keep taking your usual medicines.

When to Call the Nurse

Watch the puncture site for **bleeding**, **swelling**, **redness**, **warmth**, or **discharge**. If any of these symptoms occur:

- Weekdays from 6:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., call the Ambulatory Procedure Area (APA) at 206-744-8088.
- After hours and on weekends and holidays, call the Community Care Line Nurse at 206-744-2500.

Questions?

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or health care provider if you have questions or concerns.

HMC Ambulatory Procedure Area: 206-744-8088