

After Your Celiac Plexus Injection / Block

Important instructions



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What to Expect After Your Procedure

Everyone responds to this procedure differently. These are some symptoms you may experience:

- Your procedure site may be sore or tender as the local anesthesia (numbing medicine) wears off.
- You may feel the need to have a bowel movement (poop), pass gas, or have diarrhea.
- You may feel nauseated.
- You may feel lightheaded or dizzy when getting up or bending.
- Your pain may come back after a while. Talk with your provider about what you can expect.

Safety Instructions

If you had medicine to help you relax or to relieve pain during the biopsy:

- You must have a responsible adult drive you home after your procedure.
- For the next 24 hours:
 - Do **not** drive a car.
 - Do **not** drink alcohol.
 - Do **not** use machinery or power tools.
 - Do **not** make legal decisions.
 - Do **not** take care of another person.

Activity Guidelines

- Relax and do only light activities for the rest of the day.
- For 48 hours, avoid difficult activities, such as heavy exercise or lifting more than 10 pounds (about the weight of a gallon of water).
- You can walk and climb stairs, if you take your time and do not strain.
- You can eat your normal diet.

Medications

- Resume taking your blood-thinning medications 24 hours after your procedure. This includes anticoagulants and antiplatelets.
- Keep taking your other regular medicines unless your doctor gives you different instructions.

Self-Care

- Remove the dressing or bandages 24 hours after your procedure.
- You may shower the day after your procedure.
- For 48 hours, do **not** submerge (soak) in water. This includes baths, hot tubs, and swimming.

Follow up

Set up a follow-up appointment or discussion with your referring provider. This is the provider who referred you for (ordered) a celiac plexus injection or block.

Who interprets the results and how do I get them?

The radiologist will send a detailed biopsy report to the provider who ordered this procedure for you. It may take a few days to a few weeks to get these results. Your provider will talk with you about your results.

When to Get Help

Call 911 and go to the nearest emergency room right away if you have any of these symptoms:

- Dizziness or lightheadedness that is getting worse
- Chills or a fever higher than 99.5°F (37.5°C).
- Severe pain
- Increased redness, tenderness, swelling, or drainage (fluid) at the procedure area
- Significant changes in bowel habits (how often you poop)

Who to Call

If you have questions or concerns, please call your care team:

UW Medical Center Montlake and Northwest Hospital:

Weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., call the Non-Vascular / Interventional Radiology Department:

- Montlake: 206.598.6209, option 2
- Northwest: 206.598.6209, option 3

Harborview Medical Center: Weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., call the Interventional Radiology Department at 206.744.2857

Questions?

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

UWMC – Montlake:

206.598.6209, option 2

UWMC – Northwest:

206.598.6209, option 3

Harborview Medical Center:

206.744.2857

After hours and on weekends and holidays:

Call 206.598.6190 and ask to page the Interventional Radiology resident on call.