

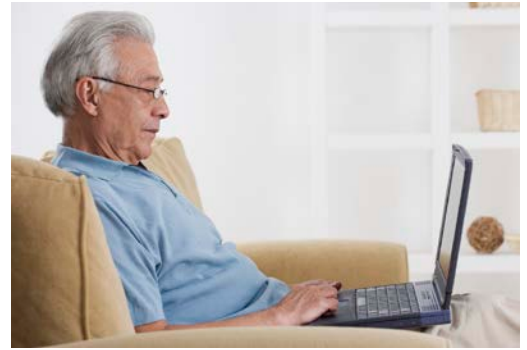
Ultrasound: After Your Guided Paracentesis

Self-care guidelines

This handout is for patients at University of Washington Medical Center who have had a procedure called ultrasound-guided paracentesis.

What to Expect

- Your procedure site may be sore or tender as the local anesthesia wears off.
- Your skin around the procedure site may be a little discolored from the disinfectant. This will wash off.



After your procedure, do only light activity for the rest of the day.

Activity

- Relax and do only light activity for the rest of the day.
- Do not shower or get the procedure site wet.
- For 24 hours, do not lift or push anything that weighs more than 10 pounds (a gallon of milk weighs about 8 pounds).

Self-care

- Remove the bandage about 24 hours after your procedure.
- After you remove the bandage, you may shower or take a bath. **Do not scrub the site.** Wash the site gently and pat it dry.
- Watch for signs of infection:
 - Redness, swelling, warmth, or pus at the procedure site
 - Fever higher than 100.4°F (38°C)

If You Have Questions or Concerns

During office hours, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m., call one of the numbers listed on page 2 if you have:

- Mild fever, pain, redness, swelling, or dizziness
- Any other non-urgent questions or concerns

Who to Call

If you are a patient at:

- **University of Washington Medical Center (UWMC)**, call:

Body Procedures Service **206.598.3725**

Body Procedures Nurse Practitioner **206.598.7977**

Procedure Coordinator **206.598.0124**

After hours and on weekends and holidays, call **206.598.6190** and ask for the Body Imaging fellow on call to be paged.

- **Harborview Medical Center (HMC)**, call:

Body Procedures Service Reading Room **206.744.6913**

After hours and on weekends and holidays, call **206.744.3109** and ask for the Body Imaging fellow on call to be paged.

If You Have Urgent Issues

Call 911 or go to nearest emergency room if:

- You have heavy bleeding at the procedure site
- You feel very dizzy, lightheaded, or short of breath
- Your abdominal pain gets worse
- The site suddenly becomes firm and very painful

Questions?

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

- UWMC Imaging Services: 206.598.6200
- Harborview Imaging Services: 206.744.3105