Angiogram/Angioplasty/Stent Placement Instructions

One of the following procedures was done today.

ANGIOGRAM:
A catheter was placed through the blood vessel in your groin, contrast was injected into the vessels, and pictures were taken.

ANGIOPLASTY:
A catheter was placed through the blood vessel in your groin and directed to an area of blocked blood flow. A balloon, and possibly a metal stent were used to open the blockage. If no other blockages are present below this area, your symptoms should improve. If blockages are present below this area, surgery may still be necessary.

STENT:
A catheter was placed in your groin through which a metal mesh tube was placed in a narrowed part of the artery to facilitate blood flow.

You were given intravenous sedation. These medications are rapidly cleared from your bloodstream. You may feel some discomfort at the insertion site after the local anesthetic wears off. This discomfort should gradually improve over the next several days.

- Only take over-the-counter or prescription medicines for pain, discomfort, or fever as directed by your caregiver.
- Complications are very uncommon after this procedure. Go to the nearest emergency room if you develop any of the following symptoms:
  - Worsening pain
  - Bleeding
  - Swelling at the puncture site
  - Lightheadedness
  - Dizziness or fainting
  - Fever or chills
- If oozing, bleeding or a lump appears at the puncture site, apply firm pressure directly to the site steadily for fifteen minutes and go to the emergency room.
- Keep the skin around the insertion site dry. You may take showers after 24 hours. If the area does get wet, dry the skin completely. Avoid baths until the skin puncture site heals, usually 5-7 days.
- Development of redness, increased soreness, or swelling may be signs of a skin infection. Contact your physician.
- Rest for the remainder of the day and avoid any heavy lifting (more than 10 pounds). Do not operate heavy machinery, drive, or make legal decisions for the first 24 hours after the procedure. Have a responsible person drive you home.
- You may resume your usual diet after the procedure. Avoid alcoholic beverages for 24 hours after the procedure.

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