

How do I take care of myself at home?

Insertion site care

- Keep the bandage dry and clean.
- Take the bandage off the day after your procedure.
- After you remove the bandage, you can shower.

Activity at home

- For at least 2 days:
 - ✗ Do not do any heavy exercise or activity.
 - ✗ Do not lift, carry, push, or pull heavy objects.
- Resume taking routine medicines unless your doctor or the radiologist tells you something different.
- If you have any pain, take the pain medicine you usually take for minor aches and pains.

When to get help

Contact your doctor right away if you notice any of these things:

- redness or pain around the incision site
- numbness, coolness or changes in colour of either the arm or leg where catheter was put in place or the limb that was treated
- fever above 38.5°C (101°F), aches, and chills

Go to the nearest Emergency Department or call 9-1-1 if any of the following happen:

- bleeding from the incision site that does not stop after 15 minutes of putting pressure on it
- chest pain or shortness of breath
- coughing up blood

Locations

Abbotsford-Regional Hospital Medical Imaging, 2 nd Floor, Fraser Wing 32900 Marshall Road, Abbotsford	604-851-4866
Lions Gate Hospital Medical Imaging, Lower Level 231 East 15 th Street, North Vancouver	604-984-5775
Richmond Hospital Medical Imaging, Main Floor 7000 Westminster Hwy, Richmond	604-278-9711
Royal Columbian Hospital Medical Imaging, Columbia Tower 330 E. Columbia Street, New Westminster	604-520-4640
St. Paul's Hospital Medical Imaging, 2 nd Floor, Providence Building 1081 Burrard Street, Vancouver	604-806-8006
Surrey Memorial Hospital Medical Imaging, 1 st Floor, Lower Level 13750 96 th Avenue, Surrey	604-588-3308
UBC Hospital Medical Imaging, Main Floor 2211 Westbrook Mall, Vancouver	604-822-7076
Vancouver General Hospital Interventional Radiology, Jim Pattison Pavilion Station 4, Ground Floor, 855 West 12 th Avenue, Vancouver	604-875-4111 Ext 68612

HealthLinkBC 8-1-1

Call any time you have any questions or concerns. HealthLinkBC is open 24 hours.

Available in 130 languages. For an interpreter, say your language in English. Wait until an interpreter comes on the phone.

www.fraserhealth.ca ♦ www.vch.ca

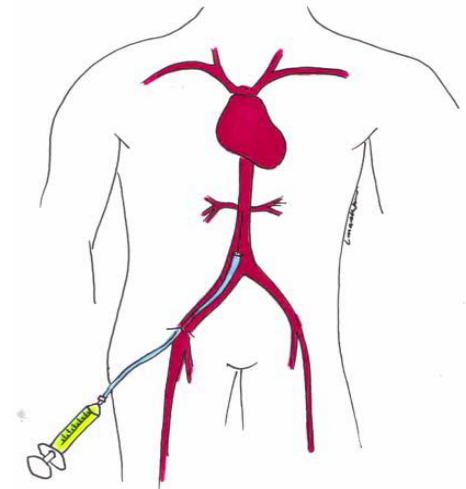
This information does not replace the advice given to you by your healthcare provider.

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Angioplasty Stent Placement

Medical Imaging

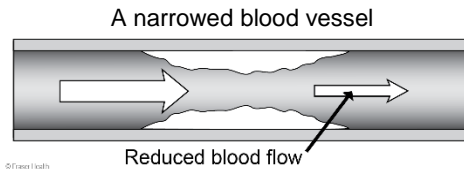


I am having this procedure:

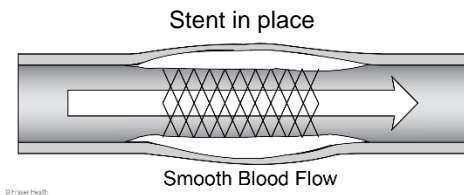
- Angioplasty
- Stent Placement

What is an Angioplasty? What is a Stent Placement?

Angioplasty (say *an-jee-oh-plas-tee*) is a medical procedure that uses a tiny balloon to open a blocked or narrowed blood vessel without surgery.



A stent is a small tube usually made of wire mesh. The stent is put in place to keep the blood vessel open and is not removed.



Who will be doing the procedure?

A radiologist does the procedure (a doctor who specializes in image-guided procedures using x-ray, ultrasound, and fluoroscopy).

Can I bring a relative or friend?

Yes, a relative or friend can stay with you before and after the procedure. However, for safety reasons, they cannot be in the room with you during the procedure.

You must arrange for a responsible adult to drive or escort you home after this procedure and stay with you overnight.

What happens before the procedure?

Our Medical Imaging department contacts you with specific instructions on how to prepare for this procedure.

If you have questions about the procedure, you can ask the radiologist before we start.

What happens during the procedure?

We start an intravenous in one of your arms. This allows us to give you medicine to help you relax (sedation).

We attach you to a heart and blood pressure monitor.

You lie on the x-ray table.

The radiologist:

- Injects numbing medicine to 'freeze' the area in the groin or wrist.
- Makes a small cut (incision) in the skin.
- Inserts a thin tube (catheter) with a tiny deflated balloon into an artery.
- Guides the catheter to the area of narrowing or blockage using real-time x-ray (fluoroscopy).
- Inflates the balloon once in position to open the artery, improving blood flow through the area.
- Injects x-ray dye several times through the catheter while x-rays are taken.

Stents are put in the same way as the balloon, on the end of the catheter.

Does it hurt?

You might have some pain or discomfort in the groin or wrist while the catheter is guided into place.

We use numbing medication and pain medication to help with this.

How long will it take?

It takes about 1 to 2 hours for the procedure and up to 6 hours to recover. You might need to stay in the hospital overnight. We let you in when we contact you.

What happens afterwards?

After the radiologist removes the catheter, we put pressure on the site to control any bleeding. We might use a pressure bandage or a pressure device to help close the artery.

We move you to a recovery area. A nurse checks your blood pressure, heart rate, breathing, and the area where the catheter went through your skin.

Are there any risks or complications?

There is a chance of infection any time the skin is pierced or cut.

Unexpected complications can include:

- bleeding at the groin or puncture site
- bleeding caused by damage to the artery or vein from catheter
- blood clot
- allergic reaction to x-ray dye