

Lidocaine Injection

Patient Information Sheet

1. What is a Lidocaine Injection?

Diagnostic lidocaine infusion involves giving numbing medicine through a vein to see if it will decrease your pain. You will be awake during the procedure and asked to rate your pain. You will be observed for awhile in the recovery room after the procedure. Since the medicines used during the block can make you drowsy, dizzy, sluggish, or clumsy, you will not be able to drive the rest of the day.

Note: The procedure can not be performed if you have an active infection, flu, cold, fever, or very high blood pressure. Please make your doctor aware of any of these conditions. *This is for your safety!*

2. What are the risks of the procedure?

A lidocaine injection may cause, among other things, bleeding, infection, allergic reaction, blood clots, or death. It may also cause drowsiness, breathing problems, seizures, swelling, brain damage, heart beat changes, numbness, or coma. Such problems are rare.

3. Will the injection hurt a lot?

There may be some discomfort associated when the IV heplock is started. Generally, there is no significant discomfort with the injection of Lidocaine. The patient may notice a “ringing in the ears” or “different taste on the tongue”; however, these sensations do not last long.

4. What happens during the actual procedure?

After signing a consent form, you will lie down on a stretcher. EKG pads, a blood pressure cuff and blood oxygen-monitoring device will be applied to monitor your vital signs during the procedure. An IV will be accessed and maintained using an intermittent infusion device. Generally no IV fluids or IV sedation is given in the office setting. The Lidocaine is prepared and given as a single injection. You will continue to rest on the stretcher for 15 minutes. You will then be assessed for your response to the injection. Your vital signs will again be recorded, and the IV removed. You will be escorted to the recovery room. You will remain in the recovery area for an additional 15 minute period. Your pain level will be re-assessed. You will then be discharged to leave with your ride after the MD authorizes your discharge.

5. How will I feel after the injection?

You may feel some drowsiness. You may notice some improvement in your pain or no improvement at all. There may be tenderness at the site of the IV. You may take your usual pain medications after the injection.

6. Will I have any restrictions on the day of the procedure?

Do not eat or drink for 6 hours prior to the procedure. You may take your medications for blood pressure or heart with a sip of water. You may also take your pain medication with a sip of water if

you are able to tolerate it on an empty stomach. **If you are DIABETIC, you will need to contact the office prior to your** procedure for instructions, unless you received instructions when you scheduled the appointment. Be aware that some types of blood thinners must be stopped several days prior to your injection which will require the approval of your prescribing physician.

You may not drive for the remainder of the day after your procedure. An adult must be present to drive you home or to go with you in a taxi or on public transportation. **The procedure will be canceled if you don't have a responsible adult with you!!! This is for your safety.**

No heat is to be used in the injected area for the remainder of the day.

No tub bath or soaking in water (i.e. pool, jacuzzi, etc.) for the remainder of the day.

You may return to eating and drinking as usual after your procedure.

7. For what reasons should I call the Murphy Pain Center after the injection?

If you experience any side effects following your injection, you should call the Murphy Pain Center right away at 502-736-3636 or proceed to the nearest emergency room.