

Home Instructions: Radionuclide Extravasation

Today, you had an IV (intravenous) injection of a radiopharmaceutical for your Nuclear Medicine study. Some of the radiopharmaceutical leaked from your vein into the surrounding tissue. This generally causes mild swelling at the IV site in the forearm/hand for 1-2 days. Very rarely, it can cause significant injury to the skin directly over the leak.

Suggestions

- First 2 hours: Use a warm compress for 15 minutes on, then 15 minutes off.
- First 4 hours: Elevate the affected extremity, such as the arm, for 15-20 minutes every hour.
- After 4 hours: Place a warm, not hot, pack on the area for 15-20 minutes, every 4 hours. Do this a total of 3 times. You can use a clean towel warmed with tap water.
- Wrap the area with a compression bandage or stocking.

When to Call

If you have any of these symptoms and they have not gotten better in 2 days, contact your physician/clinic promptly at **716-845-**_____.

- Blistering, changes in pigmentation, or ulceration
- Discoloration (aside from slight bruising) or reddening of the skin
- Increasing pain
- Loss of sensation (numbness) around the IV site

Clinics are open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays. You can reach Roswell Park 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, at **716-845-2300** or toll free at **1-800-ROSWELL (1-800-767-9355)**. After hours, our Call Center and Nurse Triage staff will assist you. If it is determined you need to be seen, you may be asked to come to our Assessment & Treatment Center (ATC), which is open 24/7. You must be referred to the ATC by your Roswell Park provider (or the provider on-call); it is not a walk-in clinic.

Questions?: Call the Roswell Park Radiology Department at **716-845-3432**. The Radiology Department is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays.

Medical emergencies: Call 911 or go to the nearest hospital Emergency Department

Patient signature: _____

Nurse signature: _____