

Going home after your Gamma Knife Radiosurgery

Discharge instructions for patients who had Gamma Knife Radiosurgery



UHN

If you have had an **angiogram today as well, please refer to the femoral angiogram instructions and this information sheet.*

Problems to watch for:

You may experience side effects that are listed in your Gamma Knife patient pamphlet.

These include:

- tiredness
- hair loss (very rare)
- vomiting
- headaches
- nausea
- possible some swelling or bruising over the eyes from the local anesthetic

Take Tylenol or Ibuprofen (Advil) for your headache and Gravol for your nausea. Let us know if these symptoms continue or are very severe.

Who to Contact:

Call the Gamma Knife Centre if you have any concerns about your symptoms.

- Monday to Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Telephone: **416-603-5445**
- On weekends and holidays, between 4:30 p.m. and 8:30 a.m., call **416-340-3155** and ask for the Neurosurgeon on-call or **416-946-2000** and ask for the Radiation Oncologist on-call.

How to take care of your pin sites:

- Keep the pin sites dry for 24 to 48 hours. Do NOT touch the holes during this time.
- After 24 to 48 hours you may wash them, but cleanse gently as the areas are healing.
- If you have Band-Aids or steri strips (tape) on the forehead sites, they can be removed tomorrow.
- You will not have any Band-Aids or tape on the back of your head. Do not worry. These should not bleed and will heal normally.
- If there is any bleeding or oozing of blood from the pin sites, apply direct pressure with gauze for 5 minutes and this will stop the bleeding. A little blood on the dressing or Band-Aids is normal.
- If your pin site leaks, please clean it with some alcohol and put a little bandaid or steri strip on it. It is not a sign of anything serious.

Call the Gamma Knife Centre or your family doctor if you have any signs of infection:

- fever
- chills
- increasing redness or tenderness at the pin sites
- pus-like discharge from the sites

Do not change any of your medications unless your doctor instructed you to do so.

You have been given a follow up appointment. Call us if you need to change the date or time.

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