

Going home after your Left Atrial Appendage Closure (LAAC) Device

Dr. _____ did your procedure.

Phone: _____

LAAC Office: Ann Sawchuk (905) 521-2100 ext. 41414

Activity

- Although you may feel fine the next day, the effects of the sedation may still be with you. Do not operate heavy equipment or power tools.
- Limit your lifting to less than 9 kilograms or 20 pounds for the next 2 to 3 days.
- You can walk or do gentle exercises when you get home. Avoid all strenuous activity for the first month after the procedure.
- Increase activity as tolerated. We recommend you walk at a pace that you are still able to talk.
- It takes most patients approximately 2 weeks to 2 months to fully recover from LAAC.

Medications

- Aspirin 81 mg daily for ____ days ____ months ____ lifelong
- Plavix (clopidogrel) 75 mg daily for _____
- Other anticoagulant _____

Care of your access site

- Look at your access site every day.
- If you see blood or develop a lump under your bandage, apply firm pressure on the bandage for 5 minutes. If the lump is smaller than a golf ball, then contact your family doctor. If it continues to get bigger, larger than a golf ball, go to the emergency department.
- You may remove your bandage the next morning.
- You may shower the next morning. Do not soak in water, such as in a pool, hot tub or bathtub for the next 3 days.
- It is normal to have bruising or a small lump that may be tender to the touch.
- Contact the office if there is any excess discharge, progressive or spreading redness around the site and/or fever or chills.

Follow-up

- See your family doctor in 2 to 4 weeks.
- See the cardiologist in 6 weeks.
- Our team will contact you to schedule a CT scan or transesophageal echocardiogram (TEE) and a visit in our clinic about 6 weeks post procedure.
- Do not go to the dentist for 3 to 6 months after your LAAC unless you have an abscess (infection) or toothache.

When to take antibiotics

- Take antibiotics before each visit to the dentist. This will help prevent an infection. Your dentist or family doctor can give you a prescription for the antibiotic.
- Take antibiotics before you have any dental procedure from now on including minor surgeries or teeth cleaning.