

After Radio Frequency Ablation

- A responsible adult driver must take you home and stay with you overnight
- You should not perform any tasks that require coordination, skill or judgment such as driving a car for 24 hours after your procedure
- Do not make any legal or financial decisions for 24 hours after your procedure
- Do not have alcohol or sleeping pills for 24 hours after your procedure
- You may resume your regular diet. Start with something light
- You may resume your regular medications. If you are on blood thinners then the doctor will advise when to resume this medication

What you might expect after the procedure:

- Pain: you may have pain at your cut site for 3-5 days after the procedure. This is normal. Sometimes the pain moves up to your shoulder. The doctor will recommend medications to help control this pain
- Post ablation Syndrome: after your procedure you may feel like you have the flu. You may have a fever, feel discomfort or feel ill. This is normal. It may start 2-3 days after your procedure and can last 2-3 days. During this time rest and drink plenty of fluids. This will help you feel better faster
- Follow up: You will be booked for a CT scan at 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 9 months and 12 months post procedure to confirm if the procedure worked and if any follow up treatments are needed. These Diagnostic Imaging Department will contact you with the appointment dates

What can you expect when you get home?

- You may have some discomfort at the puncture sites which will respond to over the counter painkillers.
- It is common to develop a slight fever over the first 48 hours
- If you get a persistent temperature which does not settle after 48 hours or increased redness or throbbing at the operation site you should come to the emergency department.
- If you have nausea or vomiting that persists over 12 hours, you feel lightheaded or have fainting spells or have any difficulty breathing please go to the nearest emergency department.

Special Instructions for You:

Last pain medication given at: _____

Other: _____

References:

RadiologyInfo.org for patients: Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA) Microwave Ablation (MWA) of Kidney Tumors