

Embolisation of arteriovenous malformation (AVM)

You have received a referral for embolisation of an arteriovenous malformation

This procedure lasts 1-4 hours.

Before the procedure

If you are hypersensitive to local anaesthetics or iodine-bearing contrast medium, or you are or suspect you might be pregnant, please inform the referring doctor or the radiographer of this before the procedure.

- Do not eat, drink or smoke after 24:00 on the night before the procedure.
- Please shower on the morning of the procedure.
- You may take your prescribed medication as usual.
If you are currently taking any blood thinning medication, or you take insulin for diabetes, the unit responsible for your care will give you separate instructions about your medication.

During the procedure

In the morning, you will arrive at either the ward or the X-ray unit's monitoring area of the radiology department for the procedure.

You will change into hospital clothes at the ward and receive premedication.

During the procedure you will lie on your back on the examination table. The radiology staff will inform you of the progress of the procedure.

You will be under anesthesia during the procedure.

The procedure is usually performed via the femoral artery in the groin. An imaging catheter will be inserted into the artery. Contrast medium and the therapeutic substance are injected into the artery via the catheter.

After the procedure

Once the procedure is over, the hole made in the blood vessel will be closed. If necessary, the puncture location will be supported with a compression bag.

Next you will be transferred to a recovery room.

After the procedure you will be confined to bed for 2–6 hours. It is also advisable to continue resting until the following morning. You may visit the bathroom.

After the procedure, you may eat and drink normally.

Physical exertion should be avoided for four days.

Sauna and bathing should be avoided for a week. However, you may take a shower on the following day after the procedure.

The radiology department will provide you with instructions regarding postoperative care.

If you come to the procedure from the inpatient ward, you will usually be discharged on the following day following the procedure.

Your doctor will write you a certificate for sick leave if necessary.

Other things to note

Please take your Kela-card or identification with you.

Cancel the appointment if you cannot come. If you do not cancel, you will be charged a fine.