After a Cardiac Catheterization

Your child had a cardiac catheterization to help the doctor see how the heart is working. A long, thin tube (catheter) was passed through the skin into a blood vessel (usually in the groin) and gently guided into his heart. A dye solution was given through the catheter and into the heart to make clear pictures of the heart on x-ray. These x-rays are pictures that show the doctor how your child’s heart looks and is working. The site where the catheter went through the skin may be sore for a few days.

HOME CARE

Checking the Catheter Site:
Report any redness, swelling, drainage, fever, increased pain at site or other concerns to your child’s doctor.

Bandage/Dressing:
Keep a clean, dry bandage over the puncture/incision site for 2 to 3 days after going home. Keep the site clean and dry after the bandage is removed.

Bathing:
Sponge bathe your child for 2 days. A small puncture was made when the catheter was inserted. It should be completely sealed and healed in 2 days. After this, your child may tub bathe or shower as usual.

Medication:
Give the medications as prescribed and instructed.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Activities: Your child can resume normal activity, diet, and school as tolerated.

FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION

Your child’s next appointment is on ____/____/_____ at ___________________.

It is important to keep all scheduled follow-up appointments. If for some reason you can not keep your child’s appointment, please notify the Cardiac Clinic at (816) 234-3880.
OTHER INFORMATION

Please note telephone numbers to call for help or if you have questions or concerns.

**Cardiac Cath Lab:** (816) 234-3256

**Cardiac Clinic:** (816) 234-3880

**College Boulevard Clinic:** (913) 696-8700

**Children’s Mercy Hospital Toll Free Number** (hospital operator): (866) 512-2168

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**Call your child’s doctor or cardiologist at (816) 234-3000 if:**

- There is redness, swelling or drainage at the puncture/incision site.
- Your child develops a fever of 101.5°F (38.6°C) or more by mouth, or 100.5°F (38°C) or more under the arm.
- Your child has increased pain to the puncture/incision site.
- There is any numbness/tingling in the leg with the puncture/incision site.
- There is any bleeding at the puncture/incision site.