Metformin Use: After A Cardiac Angiogram

During a cardiac angiogram, dye is injected and X-rays are taken. The dye may affect the way Metformin (Glucophage®, Glucophage XR®, Glucovance®) works. Here are the steps to take if you have had an angiogram and take Metformin.

- Do not take this medicine for at least 48 hours after your angiogram.

- Contact the doctor who manages your diabetes to develop a plan for caring for your diabetes through diet, other medications and blood sugar monitoring. Follow this plan.

- The Catheterization (Cath) Lab nurse will give you an order for a blood creatinine test. You may eat and drink before the blood test. Have this blood test done at least 48 hours after your angiogram. Please ask that the results be faxed to the Cath Lab at 312-926-5550. You can expect a call from the Cath Lab on the day the blood test is drawn with instructions about resuming your metformin. If you do not receive a call by 6:00 p.m. that day, please page the Cath Lab fellow at 312-926-5135.

- It is important not to take Metformin until the Cath Lab nurse or doctor tells you to resume it. Most patients may begin this medicine at least 48 hours after their angiogram.

Contact the doctor who manages your diabetes if there are any changes in your diabetes control.

If you have any questions, talk to your doctor, nurse, the Cardiac Cath Lab at 312-926-5135 or the Drug Information Center at 312-926-7573.

Health Information Resources

For more information, visit Northwestern Memorial Hospital’s Alberto Culver Health Learning Center. This state-of-the-art health library is located on the 3rd floor of the Galter Pavilion. Health information professionals are available to help you find the information you need and provide you with personalized support at no charge. You may contact the Health Learning Center by calling 312-926-LINK (5465) or by sending an e-mail to hlc@nmh.org.

Para asistencia en español, por favor llamar al Departamento de Representantes para Pacientes al 312-926-3112.

The entities that come together as Northwestern Medicine are committed to representing the communities we serve, fostering a culture of inclusion, delivering culturally competent care, providing access to treatment and programs in a nondiscriminatory manner and eliminating healthcare disparities. For questions, please call either Northwestern Memorial Hospital’s Patient Representatives Department at 312-926-3112, TDD/TTY 312-944-2358 and/or the Northwestern Medical Group Patient Representatives Department at 312-926-1920, TDD/TTY 312-695-3661.

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