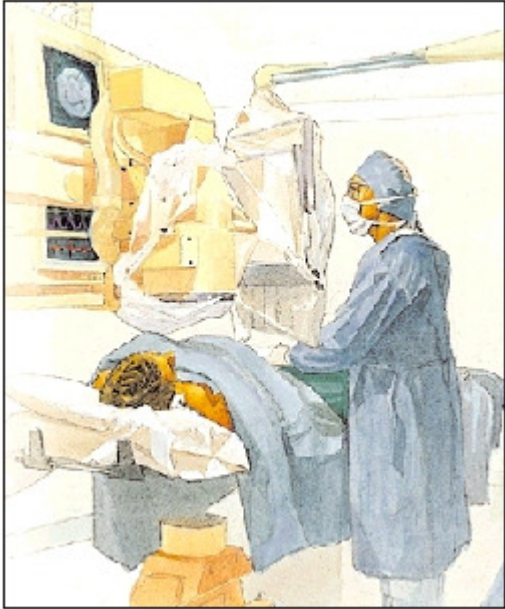


Peripheral Angiography

Talk to your doctor about the risks and complications of angiography.

Peripheral angiography is an outpatient procedure that makes a “map” of the vessels (arteries) in your lower body and legs. This map can show where blood flow may be blocked.



Before the Procedure

- Tell your doctor about all medications you take and any allergies you may have.
- Don't eat or drink after midnight the night before the procedure. If your doctor says to take your normal medications, swallow them with only small sips of water.
- Arrange for a family member or friend to drive you home.

During the Procedure

- You may get medication through an IV (intravenous) line to relax you. You're given an injection to numb the insertion site. Then, a tiny skin incision is made near an artery in your groin.
- Your doctor inserts a **catheter** (thin tube) through the incision. He or she then threads the catheter into an artery while viewing a video monitor.
- Contrast “dye” is injected into the catheter. You may feel warmth or pressure in your legs and back. You lie still as x-rays are taken. The catheter is then removed.

Call Your Doctor If:

- You notice a lump or bleeding at the insertion site.
- You feel pain at the insertion site.
- You become lightheaded or dizzy.
- You have leg pain or numbness.

After the Procedure

You'll be taken to a recovery area. A doctor or nurse will apply pressure to the site for about 10 minutes. You will need to keep your leg still and straight for a few hours. Your doctor will discuss the results with you soon after the procedure.

Back at Home

On the day you get home, don't drive, don't exercise, avoid walking and taking stairs, and avoid bending and lifting. Your doctor may give you other care instructions.