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PATIENT
INFORMATION FOR

**ULTRASOUND
GUIDED
INTERVENTION**

What is Ultrasound guided intervention?

It is a radiological procedure where an ultrasound machine is used to guide a needle through the skin into the affected area so a small amount of medication (steroid or local anaesthetic, sterile water) may be injected, in order to reduce the pain that you have been suffering.

Interventional procedure appointments usually take around 20-40 minutes.

How do I prepare for this procedure?

If you are taking medication, for example antibiotics, anti-retroviral/HIV medication please let the doctor know before having this injection.

If you are taking any blood thinning tablets which include anti-platelets for example: Aspirin, Clopidogrel or anti-coagulants for example: Warfarin, Dabigatran, Rivaroxiban and Apixaban please let us know at the time of booking an appointment as you may need to contact your GP before undergoing this procedure.

What will happen during the procedure?

The procedure is performed by a radiologist (a Radiology Doctor) under Ultrasound guidance.

It is performed as an outpatient which means you will be asked to arrive shortly before the procedure and allowed home 15-30 minutes after it has finished.

You may be asked to change into a gown depending on the area requiring scanning.

The radiologist will ask you a few questions including medication you are taking and any medical conditions you may have.

The radiologist will also talk to you before the procedure to ensure you have read this leaflet and understood it. They will explain the procedure and answer any questions you may have.

You might be asked to sign a consent form prior to the procedure.

You will be asked to lie on the examination couch and gel will be placed on the area that is being examined.

An ultrasound probe will then be placed on the skin and the radiologist will scan the area that they are considering injecting.

The skin will be cleaned with an antiseptic solution which may feel cold.

The radiologist will first inject local anaesthetic in the skin to numb the area.

The needle is then placed in the right are under ultrasound guidance.

At the end, a dry dressing will be placed over the puncture site.

After the procedure

You may be asked to stay in the clinic for up to 30 minutes after the procedure has finished, if necessary.

You may need to bring somebody with you who can drive you home afterwards.

What happens next?

The radiologist will send a report to your referring doctor.

Follow-up appointments will be with your referring doctor.

Are there any side effects?

Occasionally patients may have a flare up pain afterwards, which may be short lived but could last a few days. (If this does occur you may take your usual pain relief medication)

- Bleeding or haematoma (a bruise under the skin) this should settle down by itself
- Infection - contact your GP if you experience any redness or tenderness at the injection site
- Temporary Numbness of the injected area