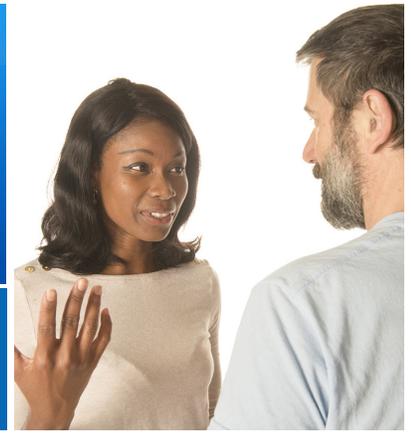


What to do if a contrast medium leaks



During a medical imaging exam, a contrast medium leaked into your skin. This sheet explains what to do and what signs to watch for when you're home.

What happened?

During your medical imaging exam, some of the contrast medium leaked out of your vein. This is called extravasation.

This product may cause mild pain, redness, and swelling of the skin.

What should I do?

Follow the instructions below for the next **24 hours**.

Apply cold compresses

Put a cold compress (a towel wet with cold water) on the site of the extravasation for 15 minutes. Repeat every 4 to 6 hours during the day.

The cold calms the pain and reduces redness and swelling.

Elevate your arm

While applying the cold compress (or at another time, for 15 minutes every 4 to 6 hours), keep your arm raised above your head, as in the photo. Ideally, sit in a high-back chair so you can support your arm.

This position helps to reduce swelling.



Avoid all pressure

Don't press on the affected area of skin and don't rub it.



ATTENTION!

It's very important to follow these instructions. This will help to prevent complications, such as a wound that gets bigger, an infection, or even surgery (rare).



Are there signs I should watch for?

For the next 2 days, pay attention to the site of the extravasation and the area around it. If you see that:

- the pain increases
- the swelling increases or new swelling appears
- the skin becomes discoloured

call the place where your exam took place (see contact information in the opposite column).



Outside of business hours, call the CHUM Patient Health Line at 514 890-8086. If you need to go to a hospital emergency room, bring this document with you, as it contains useful information for your appropriate treatment.

Date of the imaging exam:

Department:

Responsible radiologist:

Site of extravasation:

Amount of injected contrast medium:
..... millilitres

PATIENT LABEL

Who can I contact if I have questions?

If needed, you can call the place where your exam was done:

Radiology Department

Ask to speak with the technological coordinator for scans or MRI, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.:

 **514 890-8450**

or

Radio-oncology Department

Contact your clinical coordinator:

 **514 890-8000, ext. :**



USEFUL RESOURCES

Other CHUM health fact sheets are available. Ask your care team which fact sheets can help you.



You can also read them online.
chumontreal.qc.ca/fiches-sante



Questions

The content of this document in no way replaces the advice of your healthcare professional.

To find out more about the Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal
chumontreal.qc.ca

