



## AFTER PORT INSERTION

Following the procedure you will be taken back to your room on the ward. You will be a little sore for a couple of days along the line / port and you may have a small bruise.

You will feel drowsy for about an hour, during which you may need oxygen. After an hour or when you feel fit you can eat and drink. Once the nursing staff is happy you will be able to go home.

If you have a port then special cream can be applied to numb the overlying skin before the needle is placed.

## WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS?

Complications are very uncommon because Dr McCafferty uses image guidance to place your line / port.

As every vein is accompanied by an artery it is possible to puncture the artery inadvertently – **arterial puncture**. The lung is also very close and it is possible to puncture the lung – **pneumothorax**. These are extremely uncommon and I quote a risk of 1%, but it is likely to be significantly less. The main risk is **infection**. There is a small risk that an infection may occur due to insertion (within 14 days), but the greater risk is later infections. Infection risks long-term are lower for ports than lines. However ports are not suitable for all types of treatment required. To avoid infections you must not let anyone use the line /port who does not take all the necessary precautions.

## WHAT CAN I DO AFTER PLACEMENT?

There are no physical limitations. It is wise to take

great care over the first 2 weeks. Dr McCafferty recommends you keep the wound completely dry for 5 days.

## WHAT IF I HAVE ANY PROBLEMS?

This is unlikely but if something arises and you would like advice on please contact one of the Sisters in the oncology department at the Priory Hospital.

## NICE

The National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) is a part of the NHS which provides guidance for the NHS and for patients on clinical procedures. It issues evidence based guidance based on clinical and cost effectiveness. NICE issued guidance in September 2002 that the preferred method for inserting central lines should be with image guidance (Ultrasound). Interventional Radiologists are the only group highly trained in both minimal invasive techniques and image guidance.

## ACCESSING THE SERVICE

Your Consultant will need to refer you to Dr Ian McCafferty, Consultant Interventional Radiologist. He will then arrange to see you and for your admission to the Priory Hospital at a suitable time for you.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have access to the internet there is a wealth of information available. The following is a selection:

### BRITISH SOCIETY OF INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGISTS

[www.bsir.org](http://www.bsir.org)

### UK NATIONAL CANCER PATIENT INFORMATION WEBSITE

[www.cancerhelp.org.uk](http://www.cancerhelp.org.uk)

### UK MACMILLIAN NURSE CANCER INFORMATION

[www.cancerbackup.org.uk](http://www.cancerbackup.org.uk)

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