



The Surgical Institute  
at True North

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# What is a Peripheral Angiogram?

## How will the day go for me?

**Date of procedure:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Arrival Time:** The hospital staff will contact you the day before your procedure and give you an exact time of arrival. If you have not been contacted by 4:00 PM please call the hospital at (580) 251-8449 or our office at (580) 255-9797.

**Expected length of procedure:** There will be 30 minutes of prep time. The surgery will take approximately 30 to 60 minutes and you will be in recovery for 30 additional minutes.

### What happens after I arrive?

- You will check in at the Radiology Department (see map included in packet).
- Pre-op laboratories/imaging will be completed if not previously performed.
- A nurse will confirm your history, start your IV and fluids will be given.
- The surgeon will visit with you prior to your procedure and answer any questions you might have.
- Anesthesia will arrive to review your history and take you to the operating room.
- Anesthesia will be administered and the surgery will begin.

### Peripheral Angiogram

What is a peripheral angiogram?

- A peripheral angiogram is a test used to identify problems in the blood vessels of your body (not including the heart). During a peripheral angiogram, a doctor uses a clear liquid called contrast dye and a special x-ray (fluoroscope) to create real-time images of your blood vessels. These images are used to decide on the best treatment for your condition.

### The Procedure

- Moderate sedation anesthesia is used during the procedure. A small needle is used to access the blood vessel in the groin. A short plastic sleeve called a sheath is placed into the vessel. A catheter is put into the sheath. Contrast dye is then injected through the catheter and runs through the arteries, demonstrating any narrowing or blockage that may be present. If needed, the surgeon may perform a balloon angioplasty to dilate the vessel and improve flow to the artery. A mesh frame, called a stent, may also be placed to keep the vessel open by supporting the walls.
- In some cases, the surgeon will elect to remove the plaque. This procedure is called an atherectomy. An atherectomy uses a very small spinning blade that rotates and shaves off any plaque and collects the debris.
- After the procedure is completed, the catheter and sheath are removed. You will stay in recovery and asked to lie flat for up to 8 hours. You will return to the office one week following your procedure for repeat ultrasounds and follow-up.