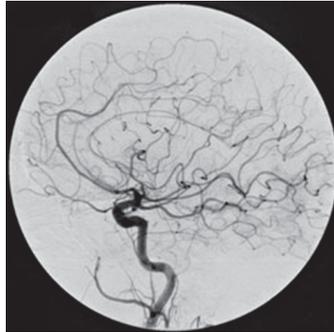


## Angiogram

An **angiogram** is an x-ray of a blood vessel. It is used to diagnose and treat vascular conditions.



Prior to having the procedure, you should not eat or drink anything after midnight. Continue taking all of your medications except for blood thinners; you should discuss taking these with your physician prior to the exam. Be prepared to remain at the hospital for at least 8 hours for your appointment. **You must be accompanied by a friend or relative who will take you home.**

To begin the procedure, an area of your groin will be shaved, cleaned with a sterile solution and draped with sterile towels. Numbing medicine will also be given. The neuroradiologist will then insert a catheter (small plastic tube) into the artery in your groin, and the catheter will be advanced to the artery in the neck or head that is under investigation. In order for the radiologist to see the blood vessel(s), you will receive an injection of a small amount of contrast (radiographic dye) and images will be taken. At the end of the procedure, the radiologist will hold pressure on the puncture site in the groin to prevent bleeding.

**NOTE:** ANY contrast allergy, even if not severe, **MUST** be pretreated with prescription medicine. The physician ordering the angiogram will prescribe this for you.

After the procedure, you will be moved back to the recovery room where you will lie flat, drinking fluids, for 3 hours. You will then be able to return home where you should continue to drink plenty of fluids. You may assume your normal diet and continue taking your medications. Avoid strenuous activity for at least 24 hours and do not take a hot bath or shower for at least 12 hours.



The results of your angiogram will be communicated to the doctor who referred you. He/she will contact you to discuss the findings and next steps, if necessary.



yoUR imaging. yoUR location. yoUR Radiologist.