Fluoroscopy Protocols

**Blood Patch**

*If the patient has Medicare, this exam cannot be performed at IDTF sites (SW, RCP, or WMC).*

*Follow protocols set by each Neuro Radiologist - See Binder at site or on the Portal page under Operations, Fluoro Icon, Neuro Tray Set Up, Preferences.

**Assist the Neuro Radiologist with the exam.**

**Scheduling and Prep:** *Patient should be screened, consented, dressed and Medicated (if necessary) ahead of time by the Paramedics

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**Blood Patch scheduling and Documentation Procedural Change**

Good afternoon,
The neuro section would like to implement a new process for patients referred to ARA for a blood patch when a lumbar puncture has been performed at a non-ARA facility. For the FLBP exam code, the below statement in the appointment booking messages will be updated as follows:

**Current:** If the prior procedure was not performed at an ARA facility, the location of the outside facility needs to be noted in the comments.

**New:** If the prior lumbar puncture was not performed at an ARA facility, approval to perform the blood patch needs to be obtained by the on-site radiologist before scheduling the patient. If approved, the location of the outside facility needs to be noted in the comments.

Please make sure your team is aware of this change and update any training/reference material.

Thanks,

**JULIE MCSWAIN**

Project Manager, Operations

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**Supplies:** *Epidural tray  *Sterile gloves  *Betadine solution (warmed)  *Tourniquet  *Alcohol swabs  *Gloves for technologist  *3cc syringe  *10cc syringe  Omni 180- Radiologist’s preference  *Anatomical side marker
**Room Set-Up:** *Open sterile tray *Remove tower drapes *Have gloves opened and supplies available *Patient should be prone with an IV catheter in arm *Expose lower back and shave if necessary *Place an “L” or “R” marker on underside of the Fluoro tower

**Procedure:** *Assist neuro radiologist with the exam *When radiologist is ready with spinal needle in place, draw 3 cc of blood through IV catheter and discard in appropriate container. Draw 10 cc of blood and hand to radiologist. *Flush the IV with normal saline following procedure

**Spot Images:** *Needle placement image-Fluoro save

**Post Blood Patch:** *Patient should remain recumbent unless otherwise instructed by the radiologist *Document puncture time for the paramedics *Document Lot # and Expiration date from lidocaine and contrast in “Exam Notes” on MI *Patient must remain at the performing site for one hour following the puncture time.