



Fluoroscopy Protocols **Lumbar Puncture**

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

**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 ahead of time by the paramedics

Supplies: *Lumbar Puncture tray *Sterile gloves *Sodium Bicarbonate (optional)
*Betadine solution (warmed) * Hibiclens if allergic to Betadine soap
*Clinical Pathologies specimen bag
*Clinical Pathologies Order form completely filled out
*Patient labels –check name and DOB *Copies of patient’s insurance card
(Must have Lab orders to send to the lab prior to beginning exam)

Room Set Up: *Open sterile tray
*Remove tower drapes
*Have gloves opened and supplies available
*Patient should be prone
*Expose lower back and shave is necessary
*Place an “L” or “R” marker on underside of fluoro tower
*Set up supplies and patient per the Radiologists preferences

Procedure: *Assist neuro radiologist with the exam
*Inform radiologist if opening pressures are requested.
*Put patient’s labels on sterile specimen tubes. Confirm name and DOB
*Document Puncture time for Paramedics and for specimen labels
*If Multiple Sclerosis protocol is ordered, Blood must be drawn by Paramedics and sent with the CSF to the lab

*After the needle has been removed, carefully wipe off the soap from the Patient’s skin.

*Take the patient, by stretcher, to recover in the medic area.

Spot Images: *Needle placement image-Screen Capture is sufficient

Post Lumbar Puncture:

*Patient should remain recumbent unless otherwise instructed by the Radiologist

*Document- puncture time for the paramedics and for the specimen labels.

*Document the Lot number and expiration date of lidocaine or any medications
Injected under “Exam Notes” in MI.

*Patient must remain at the office for one hour following the puncture time (This
Is the time that the Radiologist actually has the needle placed and ready to collect
the CSF fluid)

For details of CSF / blood lab studies, go to the following website:

<https://www.cpllabs.com/test-directory/>

*Either the paramedics or the Fluoro tech will need call Clinical Pathologies
Dispatch at 512-873-1604

*Provide Clinical Pathologies with ARA name, address, and type of specimen.

*Have completed package available for pick-up at front desk. Fill out Clinical
Pathologies Dispatch book.

**Take care to minimize exposure to the patient and the imaging team.

Reviewed March 18, 2022

Reviewed January 23, 2024