Varicocele Embolization

Overview

• Evaluate and treat a varicocele

• The use of fluoroscopic systems for interventional purposes is restricted to radiologists and individuals to whom a physician has delegated authority pursuant to the Occupations Code, Chapter 601, and the applicable rules of the Texas Medical Board.

Indications

• Varicocele

Examination Time

• 1 hour and 45 minutes

Patient Preparation

• Labs completed within one month of procedure

• Nothing to eat or drink 4 hours before procedure

• Stop blood thinners 5 days before procedure

• Obtain informed consent

• Question for allergies

Equipment

• Siemens C-arm

• Sterile pack

• Omnipaque 300
• Various size embolization coils
• Various catheters and wires
• Power injector

Patient Position & Imaging Field
• Supine

Acquisition Protocol - Routine Study
• Radiologist performs fluoroscopy and acquires images

Data Processing
• Technologist will send images taken to PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication System).
• Technologist will enter Dose Area Product in the appropriate field of RIS (Radiology Information System).
• Technologist will enter Fluoro Time and SEE (Skin Entrance Exposure) into the technologist notes field of the RIS.

Radiation Exposure levels
• Recommended operator guidance reference level for this fluoroscopically-guided interventional procedure is 90 minutes beam-on time. Threshold reference level is a SEE of 5 Gy (Gray).
• Radiation Exposure levels are monitored through the Austin Radiological Association’s monthly technologist QA process.
• If the reference level is exceeded, further analysis will be performed by the Protocol Committee and appropriate action taken to include possible patient follow-up.

Protocol Review
• Not to exceed 14 months.

Reviewed and Revised: March 13, 2020
Reviewed February 8, 2021