Read this form so you understand the procedure and its risks. Please ask questions about anything you do not understand.

What is angioplasty?
Angioplasty is a minimally invasive catheterization procedure to expand blood vessels that are narrowed or blocked.

How is angioplasty performed?
The doctor will insert a catheter (a thin tube) into a blood vessel (vein or artery) in the groin area or the arm. Using live X-ray (called fluoroscopy) for guidance, the doctor will maneuver the catheter toward the blood vessel of interest. He or she will place a tiny deflated balloon in the catheter, advance it to the area of interest and slowly inflate it to expand the blood vessel’s narrowing. Then the doctor will inject X-ray dye (contrast) and take X-ray images. Afterward, the catheter will be removed. A bandage will be applied to the catheter insertion site.

Your child will be protected by an X-ray shield during the procedure.

Will my child be awake during the procedure?
No. We will use either IV sedation or general anesthesia so that your child isn’t awake.
What are the risks of angioplasty?
The procedure is considered low-risk. However, potential complications include:
- tenderness, bruising or swelling where the catheter was inserted
- numbness or coolness in the arm or leg
- injury to the blood vessels
- blood clots
- stroke
- allergic reaction to the X-ray dye (contrast reaction)
- reduced kidney function
- blood vessel rupture, which may require a blood transfusion

What happens after the procedure?
Your child will be monitored for four to six hours in our recovery area. It is very important that your child keep the arm or leg that was punctured straight and still during that time to minimize the risk of bleeding.

When can my child bathe?
The bandage must stay dry and in place for 48 hours. You may sponge-bathe your child during this time, as long as the bandage stays dry. After 48 hours you may remove the clear bandage and gauze and your child can take a shower or a bath, as long as the site isn’t immersed in water. Leave the Steri-Strips® (white strips) in place; if they haven’t fallen off on their own after seven days, you may remove them. Do not immerse the site in water until the Steri-Strips are off.

Are there any activity restrictions?
Your child will need to avoid strenuous activities, particularly contact sports or rough playing, for one week.
CONTACT US IMMEDIATELY IF YOUR CHILD EXPERIENCES ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:
• increased pain, swelling or bruising at the catheter insertion site
• change in color or temperature of the affected area
• numbness, swelling or pain of the affected area
• fever higher than 101° Fahrenheit

Call Interventional Radiology between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 215-590-7000. At the first prompt push 1, and at the second prompt push 2.
At all other times, call 215-590-1000 and ask to speak to the interventional radiologist on call.

The Interventional Radiology team is here to help you and your child. Please ask us if you have any questions or if anything is not clear.

Thank you!

Angioplasty is a minimally invasive catheterization procedure to expand blood vessels that are narrowed or blocked.
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