

## **Fluoroscopy-Lumbar Puncture**

To Schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about Procedure: (319) 398-6050

### **What is a Lumbar Puncture Procedure?**

A lumbar puncture is primarily performed to obtain cerebral spinal fluid (CSF). It is also sometimes done to inject chemotherapy into the spinal canal. The Radiologist will place a spinal needle into a specified area in your lower back to withdraw the CSF. The procedure usually takes approximately 30-45 minutes to complete.

### **Preparation:**

- If taking blood thinners please inform your physician as you will need to be off these for approximately 7 days. If you take Warfarin/Coumadin you will need a lab draw the day of the exam before the test can be done
- Clear liquids up to 2 hours prior to exam
- You must bring a driver to take you home
- Wear comfortable/loose clothing

### **PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:**

**A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY**

**A LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS YOU ARE TAKING**

### **Procedure:**

The technologist and radiologist will explain the exam to you and you will need to sign a consent form. You will lie on your stomach and your lower back will be exposed. The radiologist will sterilize this area and you will be given a local anesthetic in your back. Then a spinal needle will be placed down into a specific space in your lower lumbar spine to withdraw the spinal fluid. Several tubes of fluid will be collected and taken to the Lab for analysis.

### **Follow-Up:**

- Limit activity for next 12-24 hours
- Drink plenty of liquids
- Notify your physician if persistent or intolerable headaches persist
- Notify your physician if you develop a fever

### **Parking/Registration:**

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE. You will be pre-registered, so you can proceed to the **Ground (G)** level and follow the signs to "Radiology (X-Ray)" also located on the **Ground (G)** level.

**Procedure Results:**

Please allow 2 business days from your exam for your physician to review your Radiology results.

**Your appointment date and time:**

Procedure date: \_\_\_\_\_

Procedure time: \_\_\_\_\_