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# Questions for Your Doctor on Angiogram/Cardiac Catheterization

The following questions can help you talk to your doctor about having an angiogram/cardiac catheterization. Print or write down these questions and take them with you to your appointment. Taking notes can help you remember your doctor's responses when you get home.

## QUESTIONS

- What information do you hope to gain from the angiogram?
- What potential benefits may an angiogram have for me?
- What are the alternatives to having an angiogram?
- What risks can I expect from undergoing an angiogram?
- Do I need to have an empty stomach before the procedure? Should I withhold any of my medications? Are there any medications that I will need to take?
- How will you enter my body to perform the angiogram? (Common entry sites are the artery in the groin or the artery in the wrist.)
- How much radiation will I be exposed to during the angiogram?
- What will happen if a blockage is discovered?
- Under what circumstances might an angiogram result in immediate angioplasty and stenting or a referral for bypass surgery?
- Will I have limitations after the procedure? Will I need to have someone who can drive me home?

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