

FIDUCIAL MARKER (GOLD SEED) INSERTION

Why do I need this procedure?

Your Oncologist has recommended that you undergo fiducial marker insertion in preparation for your radiotherapy treatment of your prostate. These markers allow more accurate and successful radiotherapy to treat the prostate.

What is a fiducial marker insertion?

For this procedure, the doctor will pass a small ultrasound probe into your rectum. A needle will be passed through the probe into your prostate. The prostate is then thoroughly examined using the ultrasound. Markers are then placed into the prostate by the introduction of a needle through the probe. There may be a sharp sensation which is usually of short duration. Three markers are placed. When the procedure is finished, the probe is removed. You will need to rest for 5-15 minutes after the procedure, and you must have someone to drive you home. Most men cope well with the procedure.

What should I do before the procedure?

WEDNESDAY ONE WEEK BEFORE APPOINTMENT

- **Take** prescription to pharmacy to get the antibiotics.

5 DAYS BEFORE APPOINTMENT

- **Stop** taking WARFARIN or DABIGATRAN. You can restart your Warfarin or Dabigatran the day after your fiducial marker insertion.

2 DAYS BEFORE APPOINTMENT

- **Go** to your local Labtest to do your blood test (*basic coagulation and INR*) today if you take Warfarin or Dabigatran. If you do not have a form, ask your GP for one.

DAY OF APPOINTMENT

- **Take** antibiotics 1 hour prior to appointment
- **Ask** your family or a friend to drive you home from your appointment
- **Bring** a list of your medications, including over the counter or herbal medicines
- **Have** a normal breakfast and a light lunch

What can I expect after the fiducial marker insertion?

Following the procedure, do not perform any activity that requires heavy lifting or straining. You may resume your normal activities the day after the procedure. You may see a small amount of blood in your urine, semen or when you have a bowel movement (from rectal bleeding) for several days following the procedure. Drink plenty of liquids for 1 to 2 days to clear your urine.

If you experience fever, chills, fatigue, difficulty urinating, or if the bleeding gets worse, contact your GP immediately or after hours Emergency Department

What happens next?

The Urologist will write to your Oncologist to let him know that you are ready to start your radiotherapy treatment. You will receive an appointment in the mail from the Oncology department with more information.

Procedure Number:	Obtain from Document Controller	Version:	1.0
Department:	Surgical Services and Ambulatory Care: Urology Service	Last Updated:	26/05/2014
Document Owner:	Urology Service	Next Review Date:	26/05/2016
Approved by:	Clinical Director	Date First Issued:	26/05/2014
Counties Manukau District Health Board			