



Leachman Cardiology Associates, P.A.

AN AFFILIATE OF TEXAS HEART INSTITUTE

CAROTID STENT IMPLANTATION

What is it?

Stenting is a catheter-based procedure in which a stent (a small, expandable wire mesh tube) is inserted into a diseased carotid (neck) artery to hold it open. The stent is placed from a small leg puncture. Currently, stenting is performed most often in conjunction with other catheter-based procedures, such as balloon angioplasty.

What do I do?

Do not eat or drink anything after midnight the night before the procedure (take your morning pills with sips of water only).

What will happen?

If the stenting is performed in conjunction with balloon angioplasty: An intravenous catheter (IV) will be started for fluids and medication. A local anesthetic will be used to numb a specific area of your body (usually the groin area where the femoral artery is located). A small tube is placed in the blood vessel where you bend near the groin. A small device is placed to filter any debris from the blockage during stent placement. A thin tube with an uninflated balloon at the tip will be guided into the artery. Once the balloon-tipped catheter is at the site of the blockage, the balloon is inflated, pushing the plaque in the artery back against the artery wall. The balloon-tipped catheter is then removed and a permanent stent will be placed to hold the artery open.

How long does it take?

If the stenting is performed in combination with balloon angioplasty, it will take approximately 45 minutes to complete.

Post Procedure Instructions

You will recover overnight. Approximately 90% of patients are discharged the next day.