Contrast Media Infiltration

About contrast media infiltration
Contrast media, also called dye, is a medicine given through a needle or catheter placed into a vein in your arm (intravenous or IV). A small amount of the medicine leaked out of the vein into the tissue or skin. This is called an infiltration.

Treatment
If a drug leaked into your arm:

- Keep this arm raised or elevated on a pillow as much as possible for the next two days, and then return to your normal activity.
- Do not apply pressure to the area.
- Do not lay anything heavy on your arm.
- Apply cold to the area for 15 to 20 minutes each hour for the next 24 hours. Then, apply cold 4 times a day for 2 more days.
  - This can be a cold compress or washcloth soaked in cold water and wrapped in plastic or a hand towel to keep the cold in.
  - A small water bottle may also be filled half way with cold water. Do not fill it too full, or it may be too heavy for your arm. Wrap it in a thin towel or place a towel between the water bottle and your skin.
- When applying cold, check the skin every few minutes to make sure the skin does not change much in color. If it does, remove the cold material.
- If symptoms continue or the area gets worse, call your doctor or go to the nearest emergency room to have the arm checked.

For more information
Thank you for using the services at The Ohio State Wexner Medical Center. If you need further care or follow-up, please call us:

Phone Number: ____________________

Technologist name: ____________________

Date of test: ____________________

Type of contrast given: ____________________

Talk to your doctor or health care team if you have any questions about your care.
The Library for Health Information is available to help you find more health information at (614) 293-3707 or e-mail: health-info@osu.edu.