

Patient Information Leaflet

## **Advice following an injection relief for chronic pain if there is risk of a pneumothorax**

**Produced By: Pain Clinic**

**May 2013  
Review due May 2016**



**If you require this leaflet in another language, large print or another format, please contact the Quality Team, telephone 01983 534850, who will advise you.**

You had an injection to relieve chronic pain e.g.

- Suprascapular nerve block for relief of shoulder pain
- Intercostal nerve block or trigger point injection
- Costo-chondral injection
- Thoracic facet joint injection or RF lesioning
- Thoracic sympathetic block, coeliac plexus block or arm plexus block

These procedures have a very low but existing risk of puncturing the lung. This can make the lung collapse and sometime cause a gradual build-up of pressure in the chest on the treated side, affecting blood flow.

Symptoms of this would be increasing breathlessness and/or chest pain on the treated side, with feeling faint or dizzy.

**Should you develop these symptoms in the hours of first few days after your injection you should attend A&E immediately through calling an Ambulance. Please take this leaflet with you and show to the doctor or nurse assessing you!**

Often but not always a drain has to be sited to relieve pressure and extract air from the chest. For this, an X-ray will be taken.

You can get further information on all sorts of health issues through NHS interactive available through Sky TV or online at: <http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk/>

For Health advice and out of hours GP service please call the NHS 111 service on: 111

### **We Value Your Views On Our Service**

If you wish to comment on the care which you, your relative or friend has received, we will be pleased to hear from you. Please speak to the person in charge of the ward, clinic or service in the first instance or ask them to contact the Quality Team. If you wish to contact them directly, telephone on 534850.

Alternatively you may prefer to write to:

Chief Executive  
Isle Of Wight NHS Trust  
St Mary's Hospital  
Newport  
Isle of Wight  
PO30 5TG

You can also share any concerns you have about our services with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on 03000 61 61 61 or at [enquires@cqc.org.uk](mailto:enquires@cqc.org.uk)

All NHS sites are no smoking areas.

If you would like help and advice to stop smoking please call: Freephone 0800 169 0 169 to talk to the NHS Smoking Helpline.

Ref: **A/AFIRPneu/01**