

The risk of a complication from lidocaine infusion is very low. Generally the side effects resolve themselves within 24 hours. Your doctor will discuss with you further the risks and benefits associated with this procedure, as well as other treatment options.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS MAY INCLUDE:

- ❖ Metallic taste
- ❖ Fatigue
- ❖ Ringing in the ears (Tinnitus)
- ❖ Lightheadedness
- ❖ Agitation
- ❖ Drowsiness
- ❖ Anxiety
- ❖ Visual disturbances
- ❖ Slurred speech
- ❖ Numbness of the lips and tongue
- ❖ A tingling, heavy sensation in the extremities



**GO TO THE
EMERGENCY WHEN:**

- Allergic Reaction
- Infection at the catheter site (look for bleeding, redness, swelling, heat at the site of IV insertion)



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**LIDOCAINE
INFUSION**



This pamphlet contains the following information:

General Background Information

What to expect

Preparation

Side Effects & Complications



PREPARING FOR THE PROCEDURE:

- ❖ Procedure takes roughly 2 hours to complete not including the consultation
- ❖ It is dangerous to operate a vehicle in the 24 hour period after you receive lidocaine infusion (anesthesia) as you can experience drowsiness and fatigue. Please have someone drive you home after the procedure.

DURING PROCEDURE:

- This treatment is done in-clinic, in a private room, under the monitor of nurses and doctors. The infusion is delivered via a catheter in a vein in the arm or hand.
- Your height and weight will be taken prior to procedure in order to calculate an appropriate dose for you.
- ❖ Your vital signs (blood pressure, pulse, oxygen level) will be monitored throughout
- ❖ You will be at the clinic for approximately 2 hours, so you should bring something to pass the time, as well as a blanket as you may feel cold during the infusion.

POST PROCEDURE:

- ❖ Though you can return home immediately after the procedure, you will need someone to drive you home.
- ❖ At this time you may experience some side effects, such as dizziness, drowsiness, and a metallic taste. These effects will wear off within 24 hours. Please be cautious and take sufficient rest for this period of time.

WHAT IS LIDOCAINE INFUSION?

Intravenous lidocaine infusion is administered to treat chronic pain, widespread pain, and neuropathic (nerve) pain. Lidocaine decreases pain receptors sensitivity and hyperexcitability. It also has potent anti-inflammatory properties with fewer side effects. It is especially effective in relieving the mechanical allodynia (experience of pain when there should not be) and hyperalgesia (experience of exaggerated pain) with chronic neuropathic (nerve) pain. Lidocaine should be reserved for those who have not responded adequately to other pain treatments.



Introduction:

Benefits

Lidocaine can block certain pain receptors in the nerves of your body, decreasing painful sensations. It is used commonly with conditions such as neuralgia, fibromyalgia, post herpetic pain, chronic diabetic neuropathy, vascular headaches, centralized pain, and/or widespread pain.

Risks

Although this is a very common and safe procedure, there are potential risks/side effects during the infusion. Lidocaine can cause drowsiness, metallic taste in the mouth, and ringing in the ears. Patients with impaired drug metabolism may be particularly sensitive to lidocaine. There are no long term effects of lidocaine and is considered a safe procedure.

