

Percutaneous Transhepatic Biliary Drainage (PTBD)

Percutaneous Transhepatic Biliary Drainage (PTBD) or Stenting is a procedure used to relieve biliary obstruction, often due to conditions like tumors or strictures.

1. Understanding the Procedure:

PTBD involves inserting a catheter through the skin into the liver to drain bile when the bile ducts are blocked. Stenting is often performed to keep the bile duct open after drainage.

2. Pre-Procedure Preparation:

Patients should discuss any medications they are taking, especially blood thinners, with their healthcare provider.

Fasting may be required for a certain period before the procedure.

3. Post-Procedure Care:

Patients may experience some discomfort at the insertion site. It's important to keep the area clean and dry. Monitoring for signs of infection, such as increased redness, swelling, or discharge at the site, is crucial.

4. Dietary Considerations:

A low-fat diet may be recommended initially to reduce the workload on the liver and biliary system.

Staying hydrated is important, especially if there are changes in bile flow.

5. Follow-Up Appointments:

Regular follow-ups are essential to monitor the stent's function and check for any complications.

Imaging studies may be required to assess the patency of the stent.

6. Recognizing Complications:

Patients should be educated on potential complications, such as stent blockage, infection, or bleeding.

Immediate medical attention should be sought if symptoms like fever, severe abdominal pain, or jaundice occur.

7. Lifestyle Modifications:

Patients may need to make lifestyle changes, including avoiding alcohol and maintaining a healthy diet, to support liver health.

By understanding these aspects of PTBD stenting, patients can better prepare for the procedure and manage their recovery effectively.

Always consult with healthcare providers for personalized advice and information.

Source of Document: Imaging Department /Jun 2025