



## **PTC or Biliary Tube Placement/Exchange**

**Contrast is injected into the liver ducts to check for blockages. Usually, a drainage tube is left in the ducts of the liver. This procedure is usually done when bile is not effectively draining into the ducts and into the small bowel causing jaundice.**

**Patients are heavily sedated for this procedure.**

- 1. Labs required: PT/INR, PTT, CHEM 7, CBC (HCG, if needed) and liver function tests (liver function test is not required for tube exchanges). If these labs have been drawn during the current hospitalization and there are no indications for a recheck, the patient will not need to be retested. Let the Imaging nurse know if patient is on medications or other indications have occurred so the radiologist can determine what labs to re-check.**
- 2. Orders will be needed for the patient to be NPO for 4 hours prior to the procedure.**
- 3. Usually, routine medications are not withheld. \*However, if the patient is on anticoagulants, orders will need to be obtained for withholding these meds.**
- 4. If the patient is unable to give informed consent, be sure the appropriate designee is available to give consent, either in person or by phone.**
- 5. IV access is required.**
- 6. Antibiotics are needed pre-procedure. If the patient is not on antibiotics, notify the Imaging nurse.**

***An Imaging nurse can be reached at x5280, M-F, 7am – 7pm. After hours, the on-call nurse can be paged by contacting the Imaging Front Office at 678-312-4455 or Extension 24455.***