SCHROEDER
AMBULATORY CENTRE

Metformin

(eGFR <30mL/min)

You have undergone procedure that required an intravascular (IV) injection of iodine containing contrast. This contrast helps improve image quality but may temporarily affect how your kidneys function; particularly if your kidney function is already reduced or if you take metformin-containing medications (such as *Glucophage®*, *Avandamet®*, or *Apo-Metformin®*).

Patients with severely impaired renal function are at higher risk of contrast-induced nephropathy and metformin accumulation.

Inform any healthcare provider you see in the future that you had contrast dye and have chronic kidney disease (CKD) or low eGFR.

Why stop temporarily?

Metformin is cleared from the body by the kidneys. If your kidneys are not working normally after contrast administration, metformin can build up in your blood, increasing the risk of a rare but serious condition called lactic acidosis (a buildup of acid in the body).

To reduce this risk:

- **Stop** taking all metformin-containing medications for at least **48 hours** after your procedure.
- Do not restart metformin until your kidney (renal) function has been checked and confirmed to be normal by your doctor.

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What to do Next?

1. Contact your family doctor or the doctor who manages your diabetes as soon as you can. Ask for a **blood test** (creatinine or eGFR) within 48 hours after your procedure.
2. **Do not** start taking metformin again until your doctor tells you your kidneys are working normally.
3. Continue all other medications as prescribed by your healthcare provider.
4. Drink plenty of **fluids** (unless otherwise directed) to help flush out the contrast from your body and support kidney function.
5. Monitor your blood sugar levels closely. Stopping metformin may cause temporary changes in sugar levels. Only adjust your diabetes management plan under your doctor's guidance.

When to seek medical attention?

Go to the nearest emergency department or contact your doctor if you experience any of the following after your procedure:

- New or worsening fatigue, weakness, or muscle pain
- Shortness of breath or rapid breathing
- Severe nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- Feeling unusually cold, dizzy, or confused
- Decreased urination or swelling in your legs or ankles

These may be signs of kidney problems or lactic acidosis, which require prompt medical attention.