Inferior Vena Cava (IVC) Filter Retrieval

Disclaimer: This algorithm has been developed for MD Anderson using a multidisciplinary approach considering circumstances particular to MD Anderson’s specific patient population, services and structure, and clinical information. This is not intended to replace the independent medical or professional judgment of physicians or other health care providers in the context of individual clinical circumstances to determine a patient’s care. This algorithm should not be used to treat pregnant women.

1. Patient has retrievable IVC filter placed for a temporary indication
   - A 10 week Interventional Radiology (IR) follow-up appointment for IVC removal will be scheduled when the placement order for the retrievable filter is placed
   - If filter removal needed prior to 10 weeks, consult IR

2. IR to reschedule removal
   - Patient clinically appropriate for IVC filter removal but transient short term delay expected?

3. Schedule Benign Hematology consult prior to IR removal appointment
   - Hematologist determines removal clinically indicated?

4. Proceed with removal on scheduled date?
   - No
     - Consult Benign Hematology for anticoagulant maintenance
     - Filter to be permanent?
       - Yes
         - Successful removal?
           - Yes
             - Proceed with removal
           - No
             - No further follow-up for IVC care
           - No
             - Consult Benign Hematology for anticoagulant maintenance
         - No
           - No further follow-up for IVC care
       - No
         - No further follow-up for IVC care
   - Yes
     - Proceed with removal on scheduled date?
       - No
         - No further follow-up for IVC care
       - Yes
         - Successful removal?
           - Yes
             - Proceed with removal
           - No
             - No further follow-up for IVC care
           - No
             - Consult Benign Hematology for anticoagulant maintenance
         - No
           - No further follow-up for IVC care
     - No
       - No further follow-up for IVC care

1. Retrievable IVC filter placement: anticipated surgery or current contraindication to anticoagulation with potential for retrieval
2. Short term delays for removal such as: upcoming surgery with need to hold anticoagulation temporarily and at high risk for re-thrombosis; temporary clinical deterioration, infection, and/or hospitalization with expected recovery within the next month; recent significant bleeding episode on anticoagulation and unclear if patient able to tolerate anticoagulation in the long-term; delays secondary to logistical considerations (vacations or patient difficulty getting to IR suite), etc.
3. Change in patient status where filter will not be removed: patient going to hospice, temporary delay due to repeat surgery or recent bleeding episode preventing anticoagulation

Department of Clinical Effectiveness V1
Approved by the Executive Committee of the Medical Staff on 03/27/2018
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SUGGESTED READINGS

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**DEVELOPMENT CREDITS**

This practice consensus algorithm is based on majority opinion of the Interventional Radiology Department experts at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center for the patient population. These experts included:

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Legend:

▲ Core Development Team
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