

# PROCESS CHANGE: Metformin

## WHEN?

effective **TUESDAY,**  
**AUGUST 10th**

Metformin has been added  
back to **FORMULARY.**

There will no longer be an  
auto-substitution to an  
insulin sliding scale.

## WHAT needs to be done?

1. Radiology Technologists and Cath Lab staff to screen *in-patients* receiving Iodinated IV Contrast with an active metformin order.
2. Screeners to enter "Pharmacy Communication Order" as **per Protocol/Standing Order** to alert pharmacist need to evaluate patient.
3. Pharmacy to Evaluate need to hold metformin x48hrs based on specified criteria.



## WHO will be affected by this process change?

Radiology Technologists, Cath Lab staff, Pharmacists



## WHY does Metformin and Iodinated IV Contrast need to be monitored?

Iodinated contrast is a potential concern for furthering renal damage in patients with acute kidney injury and in patients with chronic kidney disease. If acute kidney injury were to be caused by the iodinated contrast media, an accumulation of metformin could occur, with resulting lactate accumulation.

## HOW will Pharmacy determine the need to hold metformin for 48 hours?

- $eGFR \leq 60 \text{ mL/min/1.73m}^2$ ;
- History of hepatic disease, alcoholism, or heart failure;
- Who will receive intra-arterial iodinated contrast

\*Refer to updated policy in Policy Tech for complete details.