PARACENTESIS

Updated
8/31/2026

Cerner EMR Order Name	Dept Order Entry Order Name
IR Paracentesis w/ US Guidance	IR Paracentesis w/ US Guidance

For Providers

- **Need to hold blood thinners or other meds:** no
- **Need to be NPO:** no
- **Need blood work:** not routinely checked *(if checked - platelets ≥20k and INR ≤3.0)*
- **Receive moderate sedation:** no (just local anesthetic)
- **Routine paracentesis fluid labs** - cell count w/diff body fluid, body fluid protein, body fluid albumin, body fluid LDH, body fluid amylase, body fluid creatine, body fluid pH, body fluid culture, fungal culture, AFB culture, cytology body fluid

For Schedulers

- Requirements in **For Provider** section also apply.
- **Need imaging/radiologist review:** no
- **Need H&P:** no
- **Need a driver:** yes
- **Need bed in Short Stay / PACU:** yes
- **Need an IV:** yes (for albumin, unless patient is usually less than 5 liters removed)
- **Arrival time:**
  - Riverside & Southside - 1 hr prior to appointment
  - Clay & St Johns - 2 hrs prior to appointment
- **Stay after procedure:** approximately 30 mins after procedure
- **Rads that do procedure:** Agrait (MA), Byra (BY), Carter (CA), Cohen (DC), Combs (JC), Edwards (JE), Hoffman (RH), Howard (JH), Jurasic (JU), Padula (PA), Parsons (CP), Rezaei (AR), Roth (NR), Sherard (DS)
- Order needs to specify diagnostic versus therapeutic paracentesis.
- If for diagnostic paracentesis, the order needs to specify what fluid labs are needed.

Riverside Scheduling Notes

- Paracentesis can be double booked with another IR procedure in given time slot.

Southside Scheduling Notes

- Paracentesis can be double booked with another IR procedure in given time slot.

Clay Scheduling Notes

- Current outpatient paracentesis/thoracentesis slots: 8:00 am, 10:00 am and 1:00 pm.