Getting Ready For Your Biopsy

- Stop taking aspirin or medicine like Motrin or Aleve (NSAIDS) 6 days before your biopsy or as your doctor tells you.
- Tell your doctor or nurse if you are taking blood thinners such as:
  - Coumadin.
  - Plavix.
  - Lovenox.
  - Since blood thinners make you bleed more, you will have to stop taking them a number of days before the biopsy. Your doctor will tell you when to stop.
- If you have diabetes:
  - *and take insulin:* take your evening dose as usual, the day before the biopsy. On the morning of the biopsy, take ½ your usual morning dose or as directed by your doctor.
  - *and take diabetes pills:* do not take them on the morning of the biopsy.
- Bring all your medicines with you, including your diabetes pills.
- **Do not** eat or drink anything after midnight the night before, except for water pills.
- Bring someone with you who can drive you home.

BEFORE THE BIOPSY STARTS

- You may have your blood drawn.
- The doctor will tell you about the risks and the benefits of the biopsy. Ask the doctor any questions you have. You will be asked to sign some forms.
- You may be given medicine to calm you and lessen your pain. **Tell your doctor if you have allergies to any medicines or have had a bad reaction to any medicine.**

AFTER THE BIOPSY

- You will be taken to the recovery room.
  - **If you had a lung biopsy,** an x-ray of your chest will be taken.
  - If you are doing well, you will go home. **You will not be able to drive yourself home when you are ready to go so you should arrange for a ride.**
- If you have any problems, you may need to stay longer in the recovery room. You might need to spend the night in the hospital.
- If you go home from the hospital after your biopsy, you should take it easy for the rest of the day.

FINDING OUT THE RESULTS

Not all results are ready during your visit. If your test results are not back during the visit, make an appointment with your doctor to find out the results. Do not think everything is normal if you have not heard from your doctor or medical facility. Follow up on all of your results. It is your responsibility to do so.

Easy-to-Read style based on content from Parkland Health & Hospital System, Dallas, Texas

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