Care After a Needle Biopsy

After a needle biopsy, a small bandage is usually placed over the place where the needle was put in. For 12 - 24 hours after your biopsy, you should stay in bed except for getting up to go to the bathroom.

GET HELP RIGHT AWAY IF YOU HAVE:

- Shortness of breath or **trouble breathing**.
- **Pain** or cramping in your belly.
- Feeling sick to your stomach or **throwing up**.
- **Bleeding** (bright red blood) that does not stop, from the place where the needle was put in. Until you are checked in the Emergency Room, have someone press on the place that is bleeding.
- **Pus draining** from the place where the needle was put in.
- Any unusual **pain that will not stop**. The place where the needle was put in will likely be sore for a few days after the biopsy. Some bruising is normal.
- **Swelling or redness** at the place where the needle was put in, or if the place is very sore or hot to touch.
- **Fever** more than 101º F (38.3º C) for 2 or more days.

If you go to the Emergency Room, tell the nurse that you had a biopsy. Take this paper with you to show the nurse.

FINDING OUT THE RESULTS OF YOUR TEST

Make sure you know how you are to get your biopsy results. If you do not get your results, make an appointment with your caregiver to find out the results. Do not assume everything is normal if you have not heard from your caregiver. It is your responsibility to find out the results of your test.

Document Released: 11/30/2009 Document Re-Released: 03/16/2010
ExitCare® Patient Information ©2011 ExitCare, LLC.