

# Getting Ready For Your Biopsy



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**Come to the Parkland Radiology Department on the Ground Floor on**

Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

## Getting ready for your biopsy:

- If you are taking Aspirin:
  - Stop taking it 6 days before your biopsy **or**
  - If there are less than 6 days before your biopsy, stop taking it on the day the Parkland clerk calls you.



- Tell the Radiology clerk if you are taking other blood thinners such as:
  - Warfarin (Coumadin)
  - Clopidogrel bisulfate (Plavix)
  - Enoxaparin (Lovenox)

If you have not told a Radiology clerk, call (214) 590-0062 and tell the clerk.

Coumadin will have to be stopped days before the biopsy. If you take Plavix we will have to call your health care provider to find out if it can be stopped. A doctor will call you to tell you what to do about these medicines. To lessen the risk of bleeding, your biopsy may have to be scheduled at a later time.

- On the morning of the biopsy, take your usual medicines (**but not diabetes pills**) with water only.

- If you have diabetes:



– If you take insulin, take your evening dose as usual, the day before the biopsy.

On the morning of the biopsy take  $\frac{1}{2}$  your usual morning dose.

– If you take diabetes pills, do not take them at all on the morning of the biopsy.

- Bring **all** your medicines to the Radiology Department when you come for your biopsy.



- Do not eat anything after midnight (12:00 a.m.) the night before your biopsy.

(over)

## In the Radiology Department:

- A nurse will take your pulse and blood pressure and run an electrocardiogram (ECG). You may need to have some 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 a consent form saying that you understand about the biopsy and that you agree to have it.
- The doctor will listen to your heart and lungs.
- You may be given medicine to calm you and lessen your pain. **Tell your health care providers if you have allergies to any medicines, or have had a bad reaction to any medicine.** During the biopsy, you will be given more medicine if you need it.
- Your biopsy will take about 2 hours. If there are no problems, you will be taken to the recovery room where you will stay for a few hours.



- **If you had a chest biopsy**, and are doing well after the biopsy, we will take an X-ray of your chest. If it is OK, you can go home. You should not drive, so be sure to have someone else drive you home.
- **If you had any other type of biopsy**, and are doing well after the biopsy, you can go home. You should not drive, so be sure to have someone else drive you home.
- If you have any problems after your biopsy, you may need to stay longer in the recovery room, or you may need to spend the night in the hospital. Bring an overnight bag with you in case you need to stay for the night. You will not be able to drive yourself when you are ready to go home, so be sure to have someone else drive you home.
- If the doctors find a small problem caused by the biopsy:
  - You may go home if someone can stay with you at night and drive you back in case of emergency.
  - If there is not anyone who can stay for the night with you and drive you back, then you may need to stay the night in the hospital.
- If you go home from the hospital after your biopsy, you should take it easy at home for the rest of the day.

