

PROSTATE BIOPSY INFORMATION

EFW RADIOLOGY 403.541.1200 EXT 3
PROSTATE CANCER CENTRE
SUITE 6500, 7007 14TH ST SW
6TH FLOOR PARKADE, LOT 1, SAIU BUILDING

BRING AN INTERPRETER IF NEEDED (*There are NO interpreters on site*)
PLEASE ARRIVE 15 MINS PRIOR

TRANS-RECTAL ULTRASOUND GUIDED PROSTATE BIOPSY:

Your urologist has recommended a biopsy of your prostate based on an abnormality of your PSA level, Digital Rectal Examination (DRE), or prostate MRI findings. Please take the time to read through this information carefully.

PREPARATIONS FOR PROSTATE BIOPSY:

- **Discontinue blood thinners 7 to 10 days prior** to your procedure. Ensure your prescribing doctor is aware and has approved. Some examples of blood thinners: Heparin, Coumadin, Plavix, Pradaxa, Entrophen, or herbal medication.
- You may continue taking your regular dosage of Aspirin.
- **Take your antibiotics** as prescribed.
- **Eat** a light breakfast or lunch prior to the biopsy. You do not need to fast for this procedure.
- You may take two Tylenol (Acetaminophen) or Advil/Motrin (Ibuprofen), one hour before the biopsy procedure.
- **Arrive with a full bladder for your biopsy procedure:** Drink two 8 oz. glasses of water one hour before your appointment time. Do not empty your bladder prior to the appointment. You will be able to empty your bladder prior to the biopsy procedure.
- **Have someone drive you** to and from your appointment. If you do not have a driver, your appointment may have to be rescheduled.
- Once your biopsy is complete, you will be asked to remain in the clinic for 20-30 minutes to ensure you are feeling well before you leave the clinic.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Revised: March 2018

The personal health information (PHI) that EFW is collecting, is used to provide diagnostic treatment and care services to you, and to bill Alberta Health Care for services provided under the authorization of the *Health Information Act* (HIA) of Alberta. The privacy and confidentiality of your PHI is protected by the provisions of the HIA. Please contact the EFW Privacy Officer at 587.470.6449 with any questions about this collection and use.

The main risk of a prostate biopsy is **infection**. Even if you take your antibiotics as prescribed, there is a chance that you could develop an infection indicated by the symptoms listed below. Rarely do these infections become severe and spread to the bloodstream (sepsis). It is very important that you go to the closest emergency room if you develop any signs of infection after the biopsy.

The other risk of a biopsy is **bleeding**. It is common to have some blood in the stool, urine, or ejaculate. In rare instances, the bleeding is more severe and medical intervention may be necessary to control it. If the bleeding is not decreasing after two to three days, go to the closest emergency room.

A final complication that rarely occurs after a biopsy is the inability to urinate, called urinary retention. This may require placement of a tube (catheter) into the bladder until it is resolved.

GO TO THE CLOSEST EMERGENCY ROOM IMMEDIATELY IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING OCCUR:

SIGNS OF INFECTION:

- Fever (temperature higher than 37.8 degrees C or 100 degrees F)
- Chills, sweats, or uncontrollable shakes
- Severe burning on urination
- Swelling and redness of the scrotum

BLEEDING PROBLEMS:

- Heavy bleeding in the urine with clots that do not clear up by drinking extra fluids
- Heavy and persistent rectal bleeding
- Bleeding that causes you to feel faint

WHEN WILL I GET MY RESULTS?

Your urologist will receive the results in approximately two to three weeks. Some doctors will call to discuss results initially on the phone, and others will schedule an appointment to go over the results with you.

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