

Liver Biopsy

What is a Liver Biopsy?

A liver biopsy is a procedure to remove a small sample of liver tissue for laboratory testing.

To Prepare

- Do not eat or drink anything for 8 hours before the test.
- If you are taking blood thinners. Please hold as instructed. If you have any questions about this please call 419-563-9342
- Please take any other medications as scheduled, unless you have been informed otherwise by your doctor.
- If you do take morning medications, take them only with a sip of water.
- You will be asked to have blood drawn prior to your test. Please have blood drawn the day before your procedure.
- You will not be able to drive after the procedure. Please bring someone with you who is able to drive you home.

What to Expect

- Once you have registered, you will be directed to the radiology department.
- A technologist will then take you to the room for your biopsy. This may be a CT or ultrasound room.
- The radiologist will talk to you before the procedure and answer any questions you may have.
- An IV may be started to administer sedation medications, if appropriate.
- A scan will be completed to look at the area of interest.
- The skin will be cleaned with a cleaning solution and covered with a sterile drape.
- The radiologist will inject the site with numbing medicine, this may cause a temporary stinging sensation.
- Once the site is numb, the radiologist will insert a biopsy needle into the area of interest.
- Some cells and tissue will be removed through the needle.
- The needle will then be removed and a band-aid will be placed over the needle site.
- The cell and tissue samples will be sent to the lab.

After the Procedure

- You will be taken to a room and monitored for 1 to 2 hours after the procedure.
- The radiologist will inform your nurse when it is OK to discharge you.
- You may take ibuprofen as directed by your physician. Avoid Acetaminophen (Tylenol) if you have liver disease.
- An ice pack over the area may help decrease soreness.
- Test results will be sent to your doctor. Your doctor will share these results with you.
- You will receive further instructions at the time of discharge.

If you have any questions or concerns, please ask the radiology department staff or contact your doctor.

Bucyrus Hospital

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419-563-9342

Galion Hospital

269 Portland Way S, Galion
419-468-4841

Ontario Hospital

715 Richland Mall, Ontario
567-307-7666