

## What can I expect after the Procedure?

(continued)

Your doctor may order a chest x-ray after the procedure.

You will not be allowed to eat or drink anything until the numbness in your throat has worn off. This usually takes 2 hours.

You may have a slightly sore throat or hoarseness of your voice. This is normal and should resolve within 24 hours.

You will cough and may also cough up some blood tinged sputum.

You may have a fever. This is normal and should resolve within 12 - 24 hours.

## Activity

DO NOT operate any kind of machinery or drive a vehicle for 24 hours after your procedure. You may resume your normal activities 24 hours after your procedure.

## Decisions

Intravenous sedation may impair your judgment for 24 hours. You should avoid making any major life or financial decisions at this time.

## Medication instructions:

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## What are the possible complications?

Complications are rare but can occur. These include:

- pneumothorax – a condition where air collects in the space around the lungs which causes one or both lungs to collapse
- bleeding from the site of the biopsy
- damage to the vocal cords
- swelling of the airways
- spasm of the airways
- infection
- a reaction to the medications used during the procedure

## Go to the nearest Emergency Department if you:

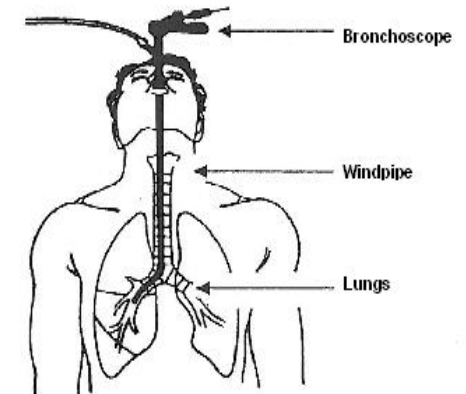
- have a fever that lasts longer than 24 hours.
- are coughing up blood that is more than a teaspoon of bright blood, or is increasing in amount over time.
- have difficulty swallowing or increasing throat, chest or abdominal pain.
- have shortness of breath.
- have hoarseness of your voice that lasts more than a few days or continues to get worse.



June 2013



## Bronchoscopy



## Your procedure has been scheduled

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Please arrive at: \_\_\_\_\_

Procedure booked with Dr. \_\_\_\_\_

**Please come to:**  
University of Alberta Hospital  
Second Floor  
Patient Registration – Unit 2G1

## What is a Bronchoscopy?

Bronchoscopy is a direct examination of your airways (windpipe and lungs). A long thin flexible tube with a mini camera and a light called a bronchoscope is inserted through your nose or mouth to examine your airways.

## What is an Endoscopic Bronchial Ultrasound (EBUS)?

EBUS is a bronchoscopy where an ultrasound probe is at the end of the bronchoscope. It uses sound waves to look at structures such as lymph nodes that are outside of your airways.

## Why is Bronchoscopy done?

This procedure may help your doctor diagnose your condition and prescribe a treatment. Fluid, mucous and / or tiny biopsies (tissue samples) may be taken off to help diagnose your illness. The physician may also take pictures of the area.

## How to Prepare

You will be asked to sign a consent form. Please talk to your doctor if you have any questions or concerns about the benefits and risks associated with the procedure.

Speak with your doctor about:

- any medical conditions you have such as high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes.
- any known allergies.
- all of the medications you are taking including over-the-counter medications and herbal supplements.

Check with your doctor about whether to take your medications on the day of your tests. If you are directed to take your medication, **take it with sips of water only.**

If you are taking anticoagulants (blood thinners), call your doctor 2 weeks before your test for further instructions.

**Make arrangements for after your bronchoscopy.** You will **not** be allowed to drive home as you will have received medication which makes you drowsy. A responsible adult must come to the Endoscopy dept to accompany you home, either by driving you or going with you in a taxi.

**DO NOT** eat food or drink anything (including alcohol) after midnight the night before your procedure.

## Day of Procedure

Please leave anything of value at home (jewelry, credit cards/debit cards, money). The hospital will not be responsible for lost items and there are no storage areas for these items.

The Endoscopy nurse will get you ready for the procedure. Paperwork for the procedure will be reviewed and you will be asked to sign the consent. You will change into a gown and the nurse will start an intravenous (IV) in your arm.

**The Endoscopy nurse will ask you for the name and number of the responsible adult who will be taking you home after the procedure.**

## What happens during the Procedure?

The entire procedure takes about one hour. The team of people in the theatre will be Doctors, Nurses and Respiratory Therapists.

You will lie on a stretcher with your head slightly elevated. An anesthetist will give you medication through the IV that will help you relax and make you drowsy.

The room will be darkened. A freezing spray will be used to numb the back of your throat and stop you from swallowing. You may experience some coughing or have a strange taste in your mouth but these symptoms will go away in a few minutes.

You may feel short of breath because of the bronchoscope in your airway but you will be able to breath. Taking small breaths often relieves this feeling of shortness of breath. You will be given oxygen during and after the procedure.

Your oxygen level, heart rate, and blood pressure, are monitored during the procedure.

## What can I expect after the Procedure?

You will be taken by stretcher from the theatre to the recovery room for at least 1 hour before being sent home.

Your oxygen level, blood pressure, heart rate, and breathing will be monitored by recovery nurses after the procedure.