

Dr. Galati's Liver Biopsy Information Sheet

It has been determined that a liver biopsy is needed to gain additional information regarding the status of your liver problem. In most situations, the liver biopsy will provide details regarding the amount of inflammation and scar tissue (fibrosis) that may exist. In certain circumstances, additional studies will be performed on the liver biopsy specimen to determine the amount of iron, copper, or fat that is present. All of this information will help in the treatment plan specifically designed for you on an individual basis.

There are several items listed below that you need to know about prior to the liver biopsy. Please read them carefully. Call if you have questions.

You should be off all medication that may cause an increase risk of bleeding such as aspirin, ibuprofen containing aspirin (Motrin, Advil), or nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS) for at least 3 weeks. Blood thinners like warfarin (Coumadin) should be discontinued according to physician orders. If you are unsure of the medications you currently take, call the office for clarification.

Take nothing by mouth (NPO) after midnight the night prior to your biopsy. In certain situations, your regular morning medications can be taken as soon as you wake up with a sip of water.

Plan to have someone drive you home after the biopsy. The sedation you will be given will not make it safe to drive for 24 hours. Recovery time may vary from 4-6 hours in the hospital.

For at least the first 12-24 hours after the biopsy, you need to be under the supervision of a competent adult.

Do not take aspirin, ibuprofen or other aspirin-like products for at least 5 days after the biopsy.

Results of the biopsy will be available in approximately 10-14 days. **Make a follow-up appointment to discuss all liver results.**

CANCELLATION FEE: There will be a \$75.00 charge to patient for any cancellation **less than 48 hrs.** You will be directly responsible for this charge. This will not be billed to your insurance.

2 WEEKS before your procedure, you must call St. Luke's Hospital to pre-register at 832-355-8177 or 832-355-8046

