



SW9160



# Liver Biopsy

Facility:

(Affix identification label here)

URN:

Family name:

Given name(s):

Address:

Date of birth:

Sex:  M  F  I

## A. Interpreter / cultural needs

- An Interpreter Service is required?  Yes  No  
If Yes, is a qualified Interpreter present?  Yes  No  
A Cultural Support Person is required?  Yes  No  
If Yes, is a Cultural Support Person present?  Yes  No

## B. Condition and treatment

The doctor has explained that you have the following condition: *(Doctor to document in patient's own words)*

.....  
.....

This condition requires the following procedure.  
*(Doctor to document - include site and/or side where relevant to the procedure)*

.....  
.....

The following will be performed:

A liver biopsy is where a small piece of liver tissue is removed so that it can be tested by Pathology.

The doctor will give you an injection of local anaesthetic into the skin over the liver.

You will then be asked to take a few deep breaths and then hold your breath. While holding your breath the biopsy needle is put into the liver and a small piece of tissue is taken.

The procedure may be repeated a couple of times to obtain the necessary samples.

This procedure may or may not require a sedation anaesthetic.

## C. Risks of a liver biopsy +/- sedation

There are risks and complications with this procedure. They include but are not limited to the following.

**Common risks and complications** include:

- Pain at either the biopsy site or in the right shoulder which may last for a couple of days after the procedure. This may require pain relief medication.
- Nausea and vomiting.
- Faintness or dizziness, especially when you start to move around.
- Headache.
- Pain, redness or bruising at the sedation injection site (usually in the hand or arm).
- Muscle aches and pains.
- Allergy to medications given at time of the procedure.

- Failure of local anaesthetic. This may require a further injection of anaesthetic.

**Uncommon risks and complications** include:

- Internal bleeding. This may settle without treatment but could require a blood transfusion and/or surgery. 1 person in every 500 will have severe bleeding requiring a hospital admission.
- About 1 person in every 200 will have an injury or an organ punctured that is near your liver such as the right lung, gallbladder or bowel. This may need further treatment or surgery.
- Heart problems. You will need to stop any blood thinning medication (Asprin, Clopidogrel (Plavix and Iscover) or Dipyridamole (Persantin and Asasantin)) you may usually take. This results in a risk of clots, heart attack or stroke in the time you are off these medications.
- An existing medical condition that you may have getting worse.
- Clots in the leg (deep vein thrombosis or DVT) with pain and swelling. Rarely part of this clot may break off and go into the lungs.
- The biopsy may not get enough tissue to be useful.

**Rare risks and complications** include:

- Infection. This will need antibiotics.
- 'Dead arm' type feeling in any nerve, due to positioning with the procedure – usually temporary.
- Anaphylaxis (severe allergy) to medication given at the time of procedure.
- Death as a result of complications to this procedure is rare.

## D. Significant risks and procedure options

*(Doctor to document in space provided. Continue in Medical Record if necessary.)*

.....  
.....  
.....

## E. Risks of not having this procedure

*(Doctor to document in space provided. Continue in Medical Record if necessary.)*

.....  
.....  
.....



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## F. Patient consent

I acknowledge that the doctor has explained;

- my medical condition and the proposed procedure, including additional treatment if the doctor finds something unexpected. I understand the risks, including the risks that are specific to me.
- The anaesthetic/sedation required for this procedure. I understand the risks, including the risks that are specific to me.
- other relevant procedure/treatment options and their associated risks.
- my prognosis and the risks of not having the procedure.
- that no guarantee has been made that the procedure will improve my condition even though it has been carried out with due professional care.
- the procedure may include a blood transfusion.
- tissues and blood may be removed and could be used for diagnosis or management of my condition, stored and disposed of sensitively by the hospital.
- if immediate life-threatening events happen during the procedure, they will be treated based on my discussions with the doctor or my Acute Resuscitation Plan.
- a doctor other than the Consultant may conduct the procedure. I understand this could be a doctor undergoing further training.

**I have been given the following Patient Information Sheet/s:**

- Liver Biopsy**
- Blood & Blood Products Transfusion**

- I was able to ask questions and raise concerns with the doctor about my condition, the proposed procedure and its risks, and my treatment options. My questions and concerns have been discussed and answered to my satisfaction.
- I understand I have the right to change my mind at any time, including after I have signed this form but, preferably following a discussion with my doctor.
- I understand that image/s or video footage may be recorded as part of and during my procedure and that these image/s or video/s will assist the doctor to provide appropriate treatment.

On the basis of the above statements,

## I request to have the procedure

Name of Patient: .....

Signature: .....

Date: .....

### Patients who lack capacity to provide consent

Consent must be obtained from a substitute decision maker/s in the order below.

Does the patient have an Advance Health Directive (AHD)?

Yes ▶ Location of the original or certified copy of the AHD: .....

No ▶ Name of Substitute Decision Maker/s: .....

Signature: .....

Relationship to patient: .....

Date: ..... PH No: .....

**Source of decision making authority (tick one):**

- Tribunal-appointed Guardian
- Attorney/s for health matters under Enduring Power of Attorney or AHD
- Statutory Health Attorney
- If none of these, the Adult Guardian has provided consent. Ph 1300 QLD OAG (753 624)

## G. Doctor/delegate statement

I have explained to the patient all the above points under the Patient Consent section (G) and I am of the opinion that the patient/substitute decision-maker has understood the information.

Name of Doctor/delegate: .....

Designation: .....

Signature: .....

Date: .....

## H. Interpreter's statement

I have given a sight translation in

.....  
*(state the patient's language here)* of the consent form and assisted in the provision of any verbal and written information given to the patient/parent or guardian/substitute decision-maker by the doctor.

Name of Interpreter: .....

Signature: .....

Date: .....

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BINDING MARGIN

## 1. What is a liver biopsy?

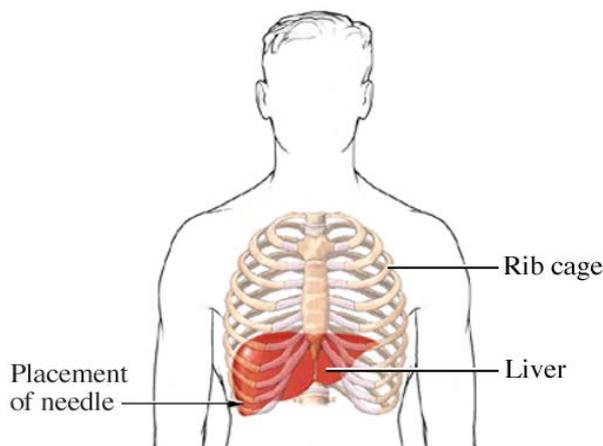
A liver biopsy is where a small piece of liver tissue is removed so that it can be checked by Pathology. Looking at the liver tissue itself is the best way to see how much damage there is and what is causing it to be damaged.

The doctor will give you an injection of local anaesthetic into the skin over the liver.

You will be asked to take a few deep breaths and then hold your breath. While you are holding your breath, the biopsy needle is put into the liver and a small piece of tissue is taken.

The procedure may be repeated a couple of times to obtain the necessary samples. It usually only takes about 5 minutes to complete the entire procedure.

This procedure may or may not require a sedation anaesthetic.



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## 2. Will there be any discomfort? Is any anaesthetic needed?

The procedure can be uncomfortable and to make the procedure more comfortable a sedative injection or a light anaesthetic may be given.

Before all endoscopy procedures begin, the doctor will insert a drip into a vein in your hand or forearm. This is where the sedation or anaesthetic is injected.

## 3. What is sedation?

Sedation is the use of drugs that give you a 'sleepy-like' feeling. It makes you feel very relaxed during a procedure that may be otherwise unpleasant or painful.

This procedure only has a light sedation. You need to be able to fully co-operate at times by holding your breath when instructed by the doctor.

Anaesthesia is generally very safe but even light sedation has a risk of side effects and complications. Whilst these as a rule are temporary, some of them may cause long-term problems.

The risk to you will depend on:

- personal factors, such as whether you smoke or are overweight.
- whether you have any other illness such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease, high blood pressure or other serious medical conditions.

## 4. What are the risks of this specific procedure?

There are risks and complications with this procedure. They include but are not limited to the following.

**Common risks and complications** include:

- Pain at either the biopsy site or in the right shoulder which may last for a couple of days after the procedure. This may require pain relief medication.
- Nausea and vomiting.
- Faintness or dizziness, especially when you start to move around.
- Headache.
- Pain, redness or bruising at the sedation injection site (usually in the hand or arm).
- Muscle aches and pains.
- Allergy to medications given at time of the procedure.
- Failure of local anaesthetic. This may require a further injection of anaesthetic.

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- An existing medical condition that you may have getting worse.
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- Infection. This will need antibiotics.
- 'Dead arm' type feeling in any nerve, due to positioning with the procedure – usually temporary.

