

# After your lung biopsy

Translated heading to be placed here

English

March 2019

## How do I get home from Hospital?

- A responsible adult must take you home by car or taxi and stay with you overnight.
- You should not drive a vehicle for 24 hours after your biopsy.
- It is not safe to travel by airplane for at least two weeks, or as advised by your doctor.

## How do I look after myself at home?

- Rest for the remainder of the day.
- Keep the waterproof bandage over the biopsy site for two days.
- You can shower after 24 hours. Keep the bandage on in the shower.
- You may return to light work after 24-48 hours or as advised by your doctor. Avoid vigorous activity or heavy lifting for a week.
- You are advised not to smoke.
- Contact your doctor before scuba diving.

## What do I need to remember?

- You may cough up a small amount of blood stained mucous. This usually stops by itself.
- Your biopsy site may be tender, sore or bruised for a few days. You may take a mild pain reliever such as paracetamol to relieve your pain, but avoid medicines containing aspirin.
- If you take blood thinning medicines you will be told when to re- start them before you leave the hospital to go home.
- Continue to take your regular medicines as prescribed by your doctor.

## When should I call for help?

### Call 000 or go to your nearest hospital Emergency Department if:

- You have pain in your chest or upper back or you are finding it hard to breathe.
- Your heart starts to beat very quickly or you feel dizzy or faint.
- You cough up large amounts of blood.
- If there is a lot of bleeding from the biopsy site.

### Contact your Doctor if:

- Your biopsy site becomes red, hot or swollen.
- You feel hot and sweaty or develop a fever.

## When will I get my results?

Biopsy results are usually ready in 3-5 working days. You should make a follow up appointment with your doctor to talk about your results.

## Who can I call if I have questions about my biopsy?

If you need to use an interpreter to contact us, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 131 450. You can also call the doctor who arranged your biopsy.

### Interpreter Services

Professional interpreters are available if you need help understanding or speaking in English. You may have a family member or friend present, but all communication about your treatment should be through a professional interpreter. Interpreter services are free and confidential. It is your right to ask for an interpreter if one is not offered to you. The staff will book the interpreter for you.