

PATIENT INFORMATION

Patient's Name: _____

You have an appointment in the St. Paul's Hospital Ultrasound Department on:

Date: _____ **Time:** _____

Please go to the Renal Unit (Unit 6B). It is located on the 6th floor of the Providence building at St. Paul's Hospital.

Please arrive 1 hour early. This gives you time to check in. Please bring with you photo identification and your CareCard (personal health number).

Please do not bring your children with you.

If you are not able to keep your appointment, please call **604-806-8161** as soon as possible. Please give us at least 24 hours notice so we can use your time for someone else. When you call, we will give you another date and time for your test.

Things you need to know

Why you need this test

Your doctor wants to know why your transplant kidney is working poorly.

How to prepare for the test

Your doctor will order the blood work before coming to the hospital.

Before your test

★ Please let us know if you are allergic to latex or freezing before this test. ★

When you arrive on the Renal Unit (Unit 6B), the nurses do the following:

- ▶ Get you to change into a hospital gown.
- ▶ Ask you some questions about your health history and about your allergies.
- ▶ Get you ready to go to the Ultrasound Department.
- ▶ Help get you on a stretcher to travel to the Ultrasound Department.

In the Ultrasound Department:

- ▶ We explain the test to you and ask that you sign a consent form.
- ▶ You remain on the stretcher for the test.

What happens during the ultrasound test?

We slide an ultrasound probe (special camera) over the skin while we take pictures and check the blood flow of your transplant kidney.

What happens during the biopsy?

We remove a small piece of kidney tissue.

To take a biopsy, the doctor:

- Cleans your skin in the region of the transplant kidney. The soap makes your skin turn pink, but it washes off.
- Injects local freezing into your skin so you do not have any pain during the biopsy.
- Guides the biopsy needle into the kidney using an ultrasound probe. You will hear a loud click each time the doctor takes a biopsy. It is important that you stay still and follow our instructions.

A technologist from the laboratory is present during the test to help collect the biopsy samples. We send the biopsy sample to the laboratory for testing. We may need to take more than one sample to make sure we have enough.

Once the doctor finishes, we put a bandage on your skin.

We then take you back to the Renal Unit on 6B.

What to expect after the test

On the Renal Unit, the nurses do the following:

- Check you and your blood pressure and heart rate.
- Let you know when you can go home.

At home:

You may have a small bruise on your skin after the biopsy. You may see some blood in your urine and it will decrease over the week. There is very little risk that you will have an infection or any bleeding inside your body. Please call your doctor or go to Emergency if you have severe pain in the biopsy area or get a fever.

How to get the results of your test

We send your ultrasound test results to your doctor as soon as possible. If your doctor does not have your results within two weeks, please ask your doctor to contact us.

The laboratory sends the results of your biopsy to your doctor separately.