Care Gram

Bronchoscopy

Date of Test: _____ Test Time: _____

How the Test Works
A bronchoscopy is a test that allows your doctor to look inside the airways leading into your lungs. During this test, a thin flexible tube (bronchoscope) is passed through your nose or mouth and into your airways. Your doctor can then inspect your airways and take samples or pictures.

Bronchoscopy is used to diagnose/treat airway or lung disease. Reasons for this test may include:
- Coughing up blood
- A cough that does not go away
- Abnormal chest X-ray or chest CT scan
- Inhaled foreign object (such as a peanut or denture parts)
- To obtain a biopsy

Allowing Time
Plan to remain at the Hospital a total of 3 to 4 hours. The test itself takes 15 to 60 minutes. More time is needed to prepare for and recover from the test.

Preparing for Your Test
- Do not eat or drink after midnight on the night before your test. You may resume eating and drinking a couple of hours after your test has been completed.
- Do not take any medications or herbal supplements on the morning of your test unless instructed to do so by your doctor. If your doctor has instructed you to take any medicine, please do so using only a sip of water.
- Do not take any aspirin containing products for 1 week prior to bronchoscopy.
- Avoid non-steroidal, anti-inflammatory medicines such as ibuprofen and naprosyn for 48 hours before your test.

Registration
Please report to the Outpatient Surgery Area located in the John & Mary Alford Pavilion one hour before your appointment time. Enter the Pavilion and take the elevators to the Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) Second Floor.

During a Bronchoscopy
If you have an allergy to Novocaine-like drugs (examples: Lidocaine and Cetacaine), please tell the doctor before the test starts so that a different numbing medicine can be used.
- You will be asked to remove your shirt or blouse and put on a hospital gown.
- First, the nurse will start an IV, and you will receive medicine to make you feel sleepy and relaxed. You should not feel any discomfort during the test.
- Then, you will receive a throat spray to numb your throat.

After the Test

- You will be monitored until you are fully awake and alert.
- You may experience some hoarseness and a sore throat.
- You must have someone else drive you home.
- You may eat your normal diet after you leave the Hospital.
- You may drive and return to work the next day.

Finding Out the Results

The doctor will talk to you and your family about the findings before you leave. You will follow up with the doctor a 1 to 2 weeks later to review the results of any biopsies.

Thank you for allowing the Cardiopulmonary staff at Licking Memorial Hospital to serve you. Remember, you have an important role in making your test a success. If you have any questions about your test, please call (220) 564-1805.

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This Care Gram is for information purposes only. It may become out-of-date over time. Ask a doctor or a healthcare professional about your specific condition.