



Department of Radiology
Raymond and Ruth Perelman Center
for Advanced Medicine
Civic Center Boulevard, 1st Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Department of Radiology
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
34th & Spruce Sts.
Ground Floor, Dulles Building
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Patient Prep & Instruction Manual Scheduled Test: CT Lung Biopsy

Date: _____

Time: _____

Where: You will report to Outpatient Radiology Reception, either on the ground floor of the Dulles Building at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania or the ground floor of the Perelman Center.

Purpose: To obtain tissue sampling for evaluation by the Pathology Department.

Preparation: You may have clear liquids after midnight. Do not eat any food. It is very important that you let the doctor who is requesting the biopsy know if you take any blood thinners.

Procedure: When you get to the Radiology Department, the Radiologist will go over the consent form with you and answer any questions you may have. You will then change into a hospital gown and will lie on a table either on your stomach or back. Your skin will be cleaned with betadine antiseptic and will then be numbed with local anesthetic. A very thin biopsy needle will then be placed through the chest wall into the lung under CT or x-ray guidance. A small amount of material will be removed through the needle so the cells may be studied. Approximately 5% of people cough up a small amount of blood after the biopsy. This resolves itself. You will be in the x-ray procedure room approximately 30-60 minutes.

After Care: Immediately after the biopsy is completed you will have a chest x-ray to check for pneumothorax (a small collapse of the lung). Approximately 1 out of 3 patients develop a small collapse of their lung (this is called a pneumothorax), which needs no treatment and resolves on its own. 1 in 20 patients develop a large collapse of the lung, which requires hospitalization, and placement of a chest tube into the space surrounding the lung. If there is a small or no pneumothorax, you are free to go to breakfast and will be given a time 3 to 4 hours later to return to have a second chest x-ray to make sure a pneumothorax hasn't formed or, if you had a small one, hasn't gotten any larger.

Please call (215) 662-3142 to speak with a technologist if you have any questions.