

Fibre-optic Bronchoscopy

Patient:.....

Bronchoscopy booked at Day Procedure Ward, 3 West, Royal Melbourne Hospital

Onatam / pm

Have nothing to eat or drink after am / pm on

Bring this letter to the Day Procedure Ward (3-West) atam /pm

Please, do not bring valuables.

Please bring with you -

Full details of your private health cover and Medicare card.

Dressing gown and slippers.

PROCEDURE:

During this test a long tube (bronchoscope) is usually inserted through the nostril, through the throat, into the lungs. The air passages in the lungs are inspected & samples are taken for testing.

ANAESTHETIC:

During the procedure you will have some local anaesthetic spray to the back of your throat to make it numb; and possibly an intravenous injection to make you sleepy - not a full general anaesthetic. Most people do not remember the procedure.

AFTER THE PROCEDURE you will remain under observation, as a day patient, for about two hours. You should then not drive on that day.

COMPLICATIONS.

After the procedure, you will probably notice a sore nostril and sore throat for a day or so. You might cough some blood, which is to be expected if a biopsy has been done. Occasionally, a temperature may develop. *Rare* complications in patients with severe heart or circulatory troubles, also include shock, abnormal heart rhythm, heart attack or stroke.

In the uncommon case when a *lung* biopsy is necessary, there are additional risks. These include (i) puncture of the lung with deflation (pneumothorax) and (ii) significant bleeding. Most bronchoscopies do not require a lung biopsy. We will specifically discuss this with you, if a lung biopsy is required.

After you have been discharged from hospital, IF you notice -

Chest pain.

Trouble breathing.

Coughing more than 50-100ml blood.

Report a hospital emergency department. Bring this note with you to help explain the problem.