Bronchiolitis Obliterans Syndrome after Lung Transplant

Bronchiolitis Obliterans Syndrome (BOS) is a lung disease that results in scarring of the small airways in the lung. The scarring will result in less air exchange in the airways and over time the airways may be blocked. You are at greater risk when there is:

- Infection
- Previous acute rejection episodes
- Chronic rejection
- Gastric reflux

Symptoms

- Shortness of breath
- Cough
- Wheezing or whistling sounds with breathing
- Decrease in activity level
- May not have specific symptoms
Testing

After a physical exam, you may have tests to find out the cause of your problem. These tests may include:

- **Pulmonary Function Test (PFT):** PFT is done to check the function of your lungs. The test measures both the amount of air you move in and out of your lungs and how easy it is for you to breathe. Read the handout [Pulmonary Function Testing](#) for more information.

- **Bronchoscopy and Biopsy:** A long tube called a bronchoscope is put into your nose or mouth and passed down through your trachea (windpipe) into your lungs. The tip of the scope has a light and camera that lets the doctor see your lungs and airways. During the test, a tissue sample may be taken for laboratory testing (biopsy). Read the handout on [Bronchoscopy](#) for more information.

- **Chest CT:** This is an x-ray scan using a special x-ray machine and computer. The scan creates thin slices or segments of the test. Read the handout on [Chest CT](#) for more information.

Treatment

Treatment slows the progression of the disease, but it is not a cure. Depending on the cause, treatment works to:

- Prevent respiratory infections.
- Prevent acute rejection.
- Control chronic rejection with medicine.
- Support lung function through Pulmonary Rehabilitation. If you are not enrolled in therapy, our team will connect you with a therapist.

If you have any questions or concerns, talk with your transplant coordinator, nurse or doctor.

- **Talk to your doctor or others on your health care team if you have questions.** You may request more written information from the Library for Health Information at (614) 293-3707 or email: health-info@osu.edu.