Home Care Instructions
After Your Liver Biopsy

1. Go home without making any stops along the way. Rest in bed or on the couch until the next morning. Get up only to use the bathroom. Keep stair climbing to a minimum. Limit your activity for the next two days, no jogging or contact sports. **Do not drive until the day after your biopsy.**

2. Drink plenty of fluids. You should drink about twice the amount you usually drink.

3. Do not shower or take a tub bath the day of the biopsy. If you want to clean up, take a sponge bath.

4. Remove biopsy site bandage the morning after your biopsy. As you shower or bathe, wash the site gently and pat it dry. **Do not scrub the site.**

5. Do not lift heavy objects for 3 - 4 days. If your usual activities involve lifting, ask your doctor what is safe for you.

6. Ask your doctor when you may return to work.

7. Tell your doctor about any problems that bother you.

**Call Your OSU Doctor If You Have:**

- **Bleeding** from the biopsy site
- **Dizziness**
- **Pain**

After having a liver biopsy patients often have discomfort in their shoulder, arm, and neck. If the pain suddenly becomes more severe or if it does not decrease each day after the biopsy, notify your OSU physician.

- **Infection**

  Signs of infection are increased swelling at or around the biopsy site, redness or pain to touch, drainage from the site, temperature over 100 degrees F.

**What You Should Do If You Bleed or Have Dizziness?**

- Bleeding from the biopsy site:
  - Lie down
  - Have someone apply pressure to the site for 5 - 10 minutes, or until bleeding has stopped.
  - If you are not able to stop the bleeding, call 911 or the emergency squad.
• **Dizziness**

  Change position or stand up slowly. Sometimes it helps to sit on the side of the bed for a few minutes before standing up.

Your Liver Biopsy was done at the Ohio State University Hospitals by Dr.______________________________.

If you are unable to reach your doctor, call:

  (1) OSU Hospital Operator (614) 293-8000. Ask for the GE fellow on call.
  (2) The OSU Emergency Department number is (614) 293-8333. If you are not able to contact a doctor, call 911.

Call your doctor's office for a follow-up appointment.

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I have a copy of and understand the above instructions _____________________.

(Patient or Responsible Person)

Nurse's Signature ____________________________ Date ____________________

If you would like more written information, please call the Library for Health Information at (614)293-3707. You can also make the request by e-mail: health-info@osu.edu.