**DIET** - Usually children can drink 1-2 hours after the procedure. Your child may have a light snack 4 hours after their return to the ward and then return to their normal diet after 6 hours.

**DRESSING** - A pressure dressing will be on your child’s tummy, it is important that this is not removed or pulled at. Your nurse will observe this dressing frequently.

**WHEN WILL THE BIOPSY RESULTS BE AVAILABLE**
Your doctor will give you the results. They will not be available for 1-2 weeks after the procedure.

**HE / SHE GOES HOME?**
The dressing should be left on for 24 hours. A waterproof dressing (Band-Aid) can then be applied for 3-4 days. Your child can bathe or shower the day after the procedure. If you notice any redness, swelling, oozing, bleeding around the biopsy site you should contact the Liver Nurse Specialist or GI team. This could suggest infection.

Your child may complain of biopsy site feeling uncomfortable for a few days. Paracetamol can be given. If your child experiences persistent or severe pain, contact the Liver Nurse Specialist or GI team.

Your child can return to school / nursery 2 days after the procedure but should avoid rough play or contact sports for a short period. This will give the biopsy site a chance to heal and reduce the risk of any internal bleeding.

The GI team will advise when to restart medications that may have been on hold in preparation for biopsy. If you have any concerns about the procedure, please speak with your doctor / nurse.

For more information on Liver Biopsy, please contact the Liver Clinic in Our Lady’s Children’s Hospital, Crumlin, Dublin.

**CONTACT DETAILS:**
Phone: Main Hospital: 01 409 6100 – Bleep 8453
Clinical Nurse Specialists – Liver Unit – Extn: 6291 / 2594

**REMEMBER** - Ask your nurse if you are unsure about anything about your child’s care.

**Additional instructions**

Developed by Dearbhla Connor, CNSp Hepatology
Date issued: Aug 2012
Date of review: August 2015

©2017, Our Lady’s Children’s Hospital Crumlin, Dublin 12. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means without the prior written permission of the copyright holder. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information provided is accurate and in accord with standards accepted at the time of printing.
WHAT IS A LIVER BIOPSY?
A Liver Biopsy is a procedure that is performed in the operating theatre to obtain a small sample of liver tissue. This sample will be examined in order to assist with your child’s treatment.

WHY DOES MY CHILD NEED A LIVER BIOPSY?
A liver biopsy is performed to help diagnose specific types of liver disease in conjunction with blood tests and scans. A liver biopsy may also indicate any liver damage. It is very helpful for the medical team to make decisions about treatment options for your child.

WHAT IS A LIVER BIOPSY?
A Liver Biopsy is a procedure that is performed in the operating theatre to obtain a small sample of liver tissue. This sample will be examined in order to assist with your child’s treatment.

WHAT IS A LIVER BIOPSY?
A Liver Biopsy is a procedure that is performed in the operating theatre to obtain a small sample of liver tissue. This sample will be examined in order to assist with your child’s treatment.

WHAT IS A LIVER BIOPSY?
A Liver Biopsy is a procedure that is performed in the operating theatre to obtain a small sample of liver tissue. This sample will be examined in order to assist with your child’s treatment.

ARE THERE ANY RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH LIVER BIOPSY?
Liver Biopsy is generally a safe procedure. You will have an opportunity to discuss any possible risks with your doctor when you are in clinic or when admitted for the procedure.

Your child will be carefully assessed by medical and nursing teams prior to the procedure. As the liver contains a lot of blood, bleeding is a possible risk. However this does not occur often. To help prevent the risk of bleeding the medical team will perform bloods on your child. If there are any abnormalities, additional medication may be required. Your child will also remain in hospital overnight so he/she can be monitored closely for any signs of bleeding.

Your child may feel sore after the biopsy but the nursing staff will manage this very effectively with pain-relieving medication.

HOW DOES MY CHILD PREPARE FOR A LIVER BIOPSY?
Your child will be admitted that day before the procedure. Preparation for the biopsy will include blood tests and the insertion of an intravenous line. Because your child will be having a general anaesthetic he/she will have to fast for at least 6 hours prior to the procedure. If you feel your child is very anxious, please discuss this with the nursing staff as a medication to help him/her relax may be prescribed.

In some cases, your child’s medications may be adjusted or additional medications may be given. This will be explained by your nurse/doctor.

If your child is taking medications which affect blood clotting e.g aspirin, warfarin, ibuprofen these will need to be discontinued at least 3-5 days prior to the procedure. Please contact your Liver Nurse Specialist or contact GI team directly for further direction.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN MY CHILD RETURNS TO THE WARD?

INITIALY - Your child may be sleepy or agitated until the anaesthetic wears off. If he/she feels sick, an anti-sickness medication can be given. Your child will be monitored closely to detect any possible complications. This includes measurements of their blood pressure, pulse and breathing.

PAIN - Your child may feel sore and pain relief will be given in theatre and on the ward. Please ask your nurse if you are concerned.

REST - Your child should remain in bed for at least 2-3 hours after the biopsy, preferably lying on the right hand side as much as possible. This is to help prevent bleeding. This can be difficult to maintain in young children so it is advised that you bring your child’s favourite, toys, books to help keep him/her occupied. Older children may be allowed to mobilise to the bathroom under nurse supervision.