



What To Expect When Having A Bronchoscopy

PMH

Information for patients

You are having a bronchoscopy at
Princess Margaret Hospital:

Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

Doctor: _____

What is Bronchoscopy?

Bronchoscopy is a test that uses a fiberoptic scope (camera) to look at your lungs and airways. You will be receiving a combination of medications (a sedative) to help you relax during the test.

Bronchoscopy is used to help find out why you may have the following conditions:

- ongoing or unexplained cough
- abnormal sputum (phlegm)
- abnormal chest x-ray or CT scan
- a possible lung infection.

Please visit the UHN Patient Education website for more health information:
www.uhnpatienteducation.ca

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You may experience the following complications such as:

- mild sore throat
- cough
- fever
- bleeding or an air leak may occur, but they are rare

How should I prepare for my bronchoscopy?

- Do not eat or drink after midnight on the night before your test.
- Take your regular medication with small sips of water by no later than 4 hours before the test.
- You can take your diabetes medication or any other medication that you need to have with food **after the test**.

What should I expect during the test?

- Some monitors will be set up (EKG, oxygen saturation, blood pressure).
- We will give you an intravenous (IV) catheter for conscious sedation.
- We will spray the back of your throat with local anesthesia (lidocaine).
- We will give you oxygen during the test.
- After the lungs have been surveyed, we will take samples.
- Bronchoscopy usually takes about 10 to 15 minutes.

What should I expect after the test?

- After the test, it will take about 2 hours for you to recover in the hospital. We will let you know when you can eat or drink normally again.
- If you are an outpatient, **do not** drive after the test. Have a friend or family member bring you home.