



SKIN BIOPSY?

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

You should **not** take any motrin or aspirin the day before your biopsy.



Your doctor will ask you to sign a consent form.



You will be taken into an exam room and your arm will be cleaned with a sterile alcohol pad. Numbing medicine will be placed on the inner side of your forearm. The medicine will stay on for 30 minutes then a dressing is put on to cover it. When it is time, your doctor will wipe off the numbing medicine and clean your arm again and place it on sterile towels.



Your doctor will test your arm with a forcep to make sure it is numb.



If it is numb, your doctor will use a 2-3 mm punch biopsy that looks like the opening of a retractable pen.



It will take less than 5 minutes for your doctor to obtain a small piece of skin. It should not hurt but you might feel pressure. Only the top two layers of skin are taken. There might be a small amount of bleeding.

Your doctor will clean it off and place a bandaid. The biopsy will be put in a tube of culture medium to grow up the skin cells. There are no restrictions on activity after the biopsy but keep the bandaid for 24 hours and keep it dry.

