Bone Marrow Biopsy and Bone Marrow Aspiration

How to take care of the skin site

Follow these steps to prevent infection

- Keep the dressing clean and dry.
- Remove the dressing on the morning after the procedure. If the dressing becomes dirty or falls off, it is OK to remove it sooner. The site probably won’t need another bandage.
- Do not leave the dressing on for more than 24 hours. A dirty bandage can increase the chance of infection.
- Wait 24 hours to take a bath or shower. At that point, the dressing can be removed.

When will I get the test results?
The results will usually be ready within 2 business days. If you have not received a call from the clinic by then, please call.

Will my child have any pain?
Your child was given pain medicine during the procedure. This will still be in effect once they wake up. Most children do not need strong pain medicine unless it was hard to get the samples. We will tell you if we had a hard time getting the samples and if you can expect your child to be uncomfortable. Let your provider know if your child seems uncomfortable or complains of pain at home.

When should I call the clinic?
If you notice any of these warning signs:

- Blood oozing or draining through the dressing
- Severe tenderness or pain at the skin site
- Swelling or redness at the skin site
- Fever above 101 degrees Fahrenheit (38.3 Celsius)

For information or concerns about your child, call your child’s clinic provider.

To Learn More

- Cancer and Blood Disorders Center
  206-987-2106
- Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA)
  206-606-7600
- Ask your child’s healthcare provider
- www.seattlechildrens.org

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your child’s nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line
  1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.