What Are Bone Marrow Aspiration and Bone Marrow Biopsy?

Bone marrow aspiration and biopsy are tests to check your bone marrow function. Your bone marrow produces red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets. The tests let the doctor study these cells in different stages of development to better plan your treatment.

After the Aspiration or Biopsy: What You Need to Know

- If you receive sedatives for the procedure, do not drive a vehicle or operate machinery for the rest of the day. The sedatives can impair your judgment and reflexes for up to 12 hours.

- If bleeding happens at the site of the procedure, apply direct pressure for 5 to 10 minutes. If the bleeding doesn’t stop, call the BMT Clinic or Unit.

- You may shower, but do not take baths for 48 hours after the procedure. Keep the area dry. Remove the dressings 48 hours after the procedure is done.

- Check the site for any signs of infection. Call the BMT Clinic or Unit if you have any of these problems:
  - Redness
  - Swelling
  - Discharge
  - Warmth
  - Increased tenderness

- Call the BMT Clinic if you feel a sharp pain at the site or if you have a fever higher than 100.5° F.

- Do not take aspirin or ibuprofen to treat pain or soreness at the site. Dull pain and soreness is normal for 24 to 72 hours after the procedure. Your provider or nurse will talk to you about pain control.

- Do some walking. Walking will help you heal and help reduce pain.

Please call the BMT Clinic or Unit if you have any questions or problems.

Before 5 p.m.
BMT Clinic: 801-585-2626

After 5 p.m.
BMT Unit: 801-585-2050