

Results

The preliminary results of the bronchoscopy will be explained to you at the end of the procedure. In many cases, the intravenous sedation may make it difficult for you to remember what you have been told. The final results of the bronchoscopy will require a follow-up office appointment. Please call Dr. Carmine Simone's office to arrange.

Your procedure has been arranged for:

Under the direction of

Dr. Carmine Simone

 **416-465-9133**

Please report to the **Admitting/Central Patient Registration Area** on the first floor G-Wing at:

After registration, you will be directed to the Endoscopy Unit, 2nd floor, F-Wing.

If unable to keep your appointment, please notify Dr. Carmine Simone's office or Endoscopy Unit at **(416) 469-6580, ext. 6603**.

This information is of a general nature, and may vary according to your special circumstances.



**TORONTO EAST
GENERAL HOSPITAL**

**Some Answers to Questions
about**

Bronchoscopy

This Brochure has been prepared to help you understand the procedure.

Please read it thoroughly.

(June 2002)

**825 Coxwell Avenue
Toronto, ON
M4E 3E7**

What is Bronchoscopy?

A bronchoscopy is a safe procedure that looks into your windpipe and large air passages with a bronchoscope. A bronchoscope is a long, thin, flexible tube that works like a lighted telescope or television camera. Specially trained doctors with the help of specially trained hospital personnel will perform the procedure.

Painless samples of tissues (biopsies or brushings) or liquids (washings) may be taken during the procedure. With these samples, some parts of your lungs can also be examined and abnormalities not seen on your X-rays found. Occasionally, even tiny accidentally inhaled objects can be removed.

How Should I Prepare?

Your stomach must be completely empty for the safest possible examination. Therefore, **you should eat nothing from midnight of the evening before your bronchoscopy**. However, you may drink clear fluids up to four hours before your procedure.

Be sure to let your doctor and nurse know about the medications you are taking and any DRUG ALLERGIES.

If you are taking any prescription drugs, you should not take them until after the bronchoscopy is finished.

However, inhaled bronchodilators (puffers) should be taken as usual beforehand. Certain conditions such as epilepsy, diabetes or transplants, usually require special instructions from your doctor about your medications. If you have any concerns, please contact your doctor.

What to Expect

- Please come to the Admitting/Central Patient Registration area on the first floor G-Wing. After registering, proceed to the Endoscopy Unit Waiting Room on the 2nd floor, F-Wing.
- Your signed consent for the procedure is required. (Please bring a translator if necessary)
- You will change into a hospital gown.
- Your blood pressure, pulse and breathing rate will be measured.
- You should empty your bladder.
- You should remove your dentures and any jewelry.

In the Procedure Room

- Your throat will be sprayed with "freezing" (local anaesthetic) to lessen any choking.
- An intravenous line will be started.
- You will be given intravenous medication to lessen any coughing and make you relaxed as well as sleepy.
- The bronchoscopy will be done with you lying on your back.
- The bronchoscope will be passed through your mouth or nose at the beginning of the procedure.

- Often at the end of the procedure, you will awaken without remembering the bronchoscopy.

After the Bronchoscopy

You will go to a recovery area where you rest until most of the effects of the intravenous medication and freezing of your throat has worn off. Since your throat will be frozen, you should not eat, drink or smoke for at least two hours after your procedure.

When your nurse decides that you are sufficiently recovered, you will be discharged in the company of your driver. You should not drive for the next 24 hours. At the time of discharge, you will be given instructions for follow-up.

Complications – Are there any?

Serious complications are very rare. Minor complications, soon after the procedure, such as a sore throat or coughing up a few flecks of blood can occur. Reactions to the local anaesthetic and intravenous sedation will be closely watched for and treated during the procedure if they occur. However, if you develop a new fever for more than a day or cough up large amounts of blood, you should contact your doctor or go to the Emergency Department immediately.