



# Having a Safe Kidney Biopsy

*Your child's health and safety are important to us. You can make a difference in your child's care by asking questions and being actively involved.*

## **What is a kidney biopsy?**

A kidney biopsy is a procedure where a few tiny pieces of tissue are taken from the kidney using a very thin needle. The tissue is looked at under a microscope to find out the cause and seriousness of kidney disease.

## **What happens during a kidney biopsy?**

During a kidney biopsy, your child's care provider will connect them to monitors to measure their breathing, heart rate, and blood pressure. Your child will be lying on their stomach during the procedure so their care provider can access their kidneys easily. Your child will be given medicines to make them sleepy. Once they are asleep, your child's care provider may place a tube in their mouth and throat to help them breathe and protect their lungs. A very small cut will be made in the skin near the lower part of your child's back. A tiny needle will be pushed through the cut to remove a few pieces of tissues from the kidney. Then, a small bandage will be placed over the biopsy site.

## **Do kidney biopsies hurt?**

Your child will not feel any pain or remember the biopsy procedure since they will be sleeping. After the procedure, your child may have some discomfort from the breathing tube or medicines, but their care team can give them other medicines to help.

## **Can you stay with your child during the procedure?**

No, the procedure is done in a specially cleaned procedure room to help prevent infections. You can stay with your child before and after the procedure in the pre- and post-procedure care areas.

## **What can you do to prepare for this procedure?**

Tell your child's care providers all medicines your child is taking and ask if any medicines should be stopped for the procedure. Your child should not have anything to eat or drink for 4-hours before the procedure, except for small sips of water.

## **What should you expect after the procedure?**

After the procedure, your child will go to a recovery unit where their care team can closely monitor them. Once your child is fully awake, they will be able to eat and drink. After the biopsy, your child must stay in bed for 6-hours to help put pressure on the biopsy site and prevent bleeding (a bedpan will be provided for toileting needs). Following the procedure, a blood test will be done and if your child is feeling well and the blood test is normal, they will be able to go home.

**If you have any questions or concerns about your child's procedure, let their care team know.**