



Urologic Consultants
of Southeastern Pennsylvania

DESCRIPTION OF PROSTATIC ULTRASOUND AND POSSIBLE BIOPSY OF PROSTATE

Ultrasound uses harmless sound waves to give us pictures of the prostate and allows us to accurately guide a biopsy needle to areas of concern. Indications include suspicion of cancer either by finger exam of the prostate or by elevation of a prostate cancer screening blood test (PSA). The procedure is done in the office without need of anesthesia. Initially, a complete finger exam is done. Next the ultrasound probe, finger-like in size and shape is placed into the rectum. With slight movement of the probe, many different views are obtained. When areas of suspicion are seen, biopsies will be taken. A spring loaded fine needle is placed through the probe and pointed directly at the lesion. As many as six to ten biopsies are usually taken from the prostate depending on the findings. These biopsies are not usually painful. If biopsies are needed the entire exam takes 20-30 minutes. You may have some soreness around the rectum for up to one hour. You may also notice blood in the urine and stool for a few days, and in the semen for up to a month. We will not have the biopsy results for two to three days -- so be patient.

POSSIBLE RISKS OF PROSTATIC ULTRASOUND AND POSSIBLE PROSTATE BIOPSY

If no biopsy is done, there are no risks -- ultrasound is harmless.
If a biopsy is done, blood may be noted in the stool and urine for a few days and in the semen for up to a month. Infection of the prostate or in the urine can occur even with antibiotic preparation. You should call if you develop fever, chills, severe pain or have continuous or significant bleeding.

PREPARATION FOR PROSTATIC ULTRASOUND AND BIOPSY

***** No aspirin products are to be taken for 7-10 days before the biopsy *****

1. There are no dietary restrictions on the day of the procedure.
2. A Fleets enema should be administered two hours before the visit. Buy the enema at any drug store and follow the instructions on the package.
3. Start taking an antibiotic the day before the biopsy ...(we'll supply the prescription)