**What is a brain biopsy?**

- A brain biopsy is a surgical procedure. During this procedure, a small amount of brain tissue is removed. This tissue will then be sent to the laboratory.
- Before the surgery, your neurosurgeon will discuss exactly what will happen during the surgery. You will also be told the risks and benefits of having the surgery.

**How is the biopsy done?**

- You will be admitted to the hospital on the day before the biopsy. Some tests, including chest X-ray, blood tests, MRI, and cardiogram (EKG) will be done the night before the surgery.
- A special frame will be put on your head to help guide the surgeon. After the surgery, the frame will be removed.
- During the surgery, family and friends should wait in the surgical waiting room on the third floor of the hospital to be available for any communication from the doctors.
- Most patients are discharged about six hours after the biopsy is completed.
- You will need to have someone drive you home after discharge.

**When will I know the results of the biopsy?**

- It will take about 3–5 business days to get the results of your biopsy.
- Your surgeon or nurse will call you with the results.
- Based on your biopsy results, you will be advised of a treatment plan.

**When should I call my neurosurgeon?**

- Fever greater than 101° F
- Redness, swelling, or drainage from the incision
- Any change in level of consciousness (excessive sleepiness or excessive confusion)
- Seizures
- If you do not receive the results of your biopsy within seven days