

Bladder Biopsy
Associated Urologists, P.A.
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During cystoscopy (or using a camera to look into your bladder) your physician has found an abnormal area which needs to be removed. This area is concerning for bladder cancer. Presenting symptoms for this disease include blood in the urine, frequency, or other recent changes in your voiding pattern. It is unsure if you will require further treatment after this procedure.

The biggest risk factor for bladder cancer is smoking.

Indications for surgery:

Any abnormal area in the bladder suspicious for cancer needs to be removed during this procedure.

Treatment includes:

Using a scope through the urethra or hole you normally urinate through, the abnormal area in the bladder is resected and removed in small pieces. There is no incision made during this procedure unless a complication occurs and the bladder must be repaired through an incision. We will not know if this tissue is cancer until the pathologist has looked at this tissue under the microscope. During this procedure, your physician may decide to perform a retrograde pyelogram. This is performed by taking x-rays while contrast is injected up through your ureters, which are the drainage tubes connecting your kidneys to your bladder. These ureters have the same cells as your bladder and therefore have a small risk of having the same abnormalities which are in your bladder.

We will call you as soon as we have the results of your pathology.

What to expect after the surgery:

1. You will be discharged the day of surgery.
2. You will be asked to urinate in several bottles to make sure that your urine is staying clear. The nurse may even check your bladder with an ultrasound machine to make sure you are emptying your bladder effectively.
3. It is common to have pain with urination for several days and up to several weeks. It is expected to have blood in your urine for several weeks afterward.
4. You will be sent home with pain medicine.
5. You may also have the urge to urinate very frequently. This will also improve slowly over time.
6. All these changes in your urinary stream are due to the normal healing process of the bladder and will resolve eventually with time.

Call the office if the following conditions occur:

1. You have a temperature greater than 101.5
2. You begin having blood clots in your urine
3. You begin to have new episodes of leaking urine along with the feeling of not being able to empty your bladder.
4. Pain in your lower abdomen and the inability to urinate.