

Going home after a brain biopsy

Medications before surgery

Unless you have specific instructions by your surgeon or doctor, do not take any antiplatelet medication or blood thinners. This type of medication prevents your blood from clotting.

Do not take for 5 days:

- aspirin or medications that contain aspirin
- Coumadin, unless you have specific instructions from your surgeon
- other blood thinner medication, such as Plavix, Aggrenox or Ticlid

When you get home after surgery

- A responsible person must stay with you for 24 hours after you leave the hospital.
- Do not do any activities that may cause you to fall.

Washing your hair

- ✓ If you have had a small puncture biopsy and have no stitches or staples, you may wash your hair the day after surgery.
- ✓ If you have a small incision (cut) with stitches or staples, you may wash your hair 3 days after surgery.

Things to watch for after surgery

Call the doctor if you or your family notice any of these changes:

- increase in headache
- weakness on one side
- disorientation - you cannot figure out where you are
- seizures
- speech changes
- change in size of pupils
- decrease in level of consciousness – your family may notice that it is harder to wake you up