

Bronchoscopy

Bronchoscopy is an examination of your airways (windpipe and lungs). A long flexible camera with a light called a bronchoscope is inserted through your nose or mouth.

Why is it done?

This procedure may help your doctor diagnose your condition and prescribe treatment. Sometimes biopsies (tissue samples) are taken to help diagnose your illness. Foreign bodies or excess mucus can also be removed.

The procedure may take up to 60 minutes. Plan to be at the hospital for up to 5 hours.

How to Prepare for a Bronchoscopy

- Arrive at the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital the day of your procedure at **7:30 am**.
- You will need to be fasting for this examination. Do not have anything to eat or drink after midnight.
- Tell your Doctor if you are taking **anti-coagulants** (blood thinners) or **anti-platelet** agents, as they may need to be held prior to the procedure.
- On the morning of your procedure, you may take your medication with sips of water only.
- Bring a list of your medications with you.
- Make arrangements for transportation home after your bronchoscopy. You will not be allowed to drive yourself home. A responsible adult must take you home. For your safety, your driver must be present before you are discharged home.
- You will be asked to remove your dentures, bridges, glasses or contact lenses before the procedure. Bring appropriate containers to store them in.