

# Cystoscopy and Bladder Biopsy / Fulguration

Dr. Stephen Lukasewycz



Open on  
phone

## WHAT IS THIS PROCEDURE?

**Cystoscopy:** a camera (cystoscope) goes through the urethra into the bladder so the surgeon can look at the bladder lining.

**Biopsy and fulguration:** small pieces of any abnormal area are taken with biopsy forceps and sent to pathology. The spots are then sealed with a cautery tip (Bugbee) to stop bleeding or treat small spots.

**Retrograde pyelogram (RPG):** sometimes added. A thin tube is passed up into the ureter and dye is injected while X-ray pictures are taken, to outline the ureter and kidney.

**Afterward:** most patients go home the same day.

### KEY POINTS

- **Several specimens.** Label each one separately as the surgeon calls it.
- **Warm sterile water for irrigation, not saline.** Glycine if no water is available.
- **Bugbee: coag 25, cut 0.** Grounding pad on.
- **22 Fr sheath (default); open both the 30° and 70° lenses.**
- **If retrogrades are booked: C-arm in the room and set up before the patient comes in.** See the retrograde section below.

## SUPPLIES

### Open

- Cysto set
- 22 Fr sheath (default)
- 30° and 70° lenses
- Storz camera, GloShield, cysto pack
- Bugbee 5 Fr with cord
- Grounding pad
- **Rigid cold cup biopsy forceps**
- Warm sterile water irrigation
- Specimen cups with formalin, one per site
- Lubricating jelly on a blue towel
- Surgical jumpsuit (plastic overalls)

### Available in room, open only if asked

- 60 mL catheter-tip syringe
- Foley 18 Fr 2-way
- Glycine 1.5% (if no water)

## IF RETROGRADE PYELOGRAM

---

### Open

- C-arm (set up before the patient comes in), C-arm drape
- Contrast: Omnipaque 300 mgI/mL, 30 mL, diluted 50/50
- Ureteral catheter: 6 Fr open-ended (white)

### Available in room, open only if asked

- Sensor wire
- Rigid ureteroscope

### If sending urine for cytology or culture

- Whistle-tip ureteral catheter, a separate one for each kidney.
- Sterile specimen cups, labeled right or left.
- Cytology and culture each go with their own slip.

## GLOVES

---

- 7.5.
- Surgical jumpsuit (plastic overalls).

## ANESTHESIA

---

- Often MAC; general if needed.
- Perioperative antibiotics: cefazolin (Ancef) 2 g IV, unless contraindicated.
- B&O suppository 60 mg after the prep is fine.

## POSITIONING

---

- Dorsal lithotomy in Yellofin stirrups.
- Left arm tucked.
- SCDs on.

## PREP AND DRAPE

---

- Povidone-iodine (Betadine) scrub and paint: pubis, perineum, upper third of thighs, and genitals. For female patients, paint only in the vagina.
- After the prep, dry the perineum and place the lithotomy drape.
- **Do not place towels under the drape.** Towels let the drape slip and fall, which contaminates the field.
- Please continue draping after the prep; no need to wait for the surgeon.

## IRRIGATION

---

- Warm sterile water.
- Glycine 1.5% if no water is available.
- No pressure bag.

## CAUTERY

---

- Bugbee: coag 25, cut 0.
- Grounding pad on.

## SPECIMENS

---

- Expect several. Each site in its own formalin cup, labeled as the surgeon calls it.

