By Dr. Robert Recker, Director of the Creighton University Osteoporosis Research Center, Professor of Medicine.

MAY 10, 2002 In reference to the article: Outpatient Percutaneous Biopsy of the Iliac Crest - Methods, Morbidity, and Patient Acceptance, Dr. Recker’s additional insights regarding the use of the Bone Biopsy Trephine are as follows:

Assessment before biopsy - Check for a history of bleeding tendency.

Positioning and preparation - Supine with towel under side of biopsy (approximately 2 inches).

Localization of the biopsy site - 2 cm inferior and posterior to the anterior-superior spine.

Anesthesia - 2 - 5 mg Versed i.v. - 1% Xylocaine (plain) for site.

Biopsy Techniques and Preference - Hand Ratchet - Light pressure to advance.

What is your opinion with regards to:

The number of procedures you would recommend before reconditioning the Trephine Device?

2 - 5 biopsies.

What is the material that you use to back-fill the bone biopsy graft?

Surgicel - 2 inches X 1/4 inches.

Dr. Recker developed the unique kerf of the cutting teeth out after ‘saw-blade’ style teeth proved to be largely ineffective. The enhanced teeth reduces trauma to surrounding muscle tissue, allows for the removal of bone chips, avoids compression of the biopsy sample and reduces the risk for bone crushes.

Additional Resources:


Mayo Medical Laboratories: Outpatient Percutaneous Biopsy of the Iliac Crest, 16 min. VHS Video available from Mayo Medical Laboratories, 1-800-533-1710 or 1-507-266-5700, order # T052