

Ultrasound Guided Neck Biopsy (Taking a sample from your neck)

Why do I need a neck biopsy?

Your Consultant has decided that you need a neck biopsy, and your doctor will probably have talked to you about the reasons for the procedure. This information is to help answer some of the queries you may have about the procedure.

What is a neck biopsy?

A neck biopsy is a procedure that is performed to obtain a sample of tissue, usually from a gland or lump in the neck so that it can be examined under the microscope. You may, or may not, have previously had a fine needle aspiration test however your doctor requires a larger biopsy sample to be more certain of your diagnosis and plan future treatment. Your neck biopsy will be performed in the x-ray department under ultrasound guidance, by a doctor specialising in x-ray procedures (radiologist).

Before the biopsy

You will usually receive a date and these instructions through the post or by phone.

Special instructions

If you are taking any blood thinning medication (Aspirin, Clopidogrel, Warfarin, Heparin, Dipyridamole, Rivaroxaban, Dabigatran or Apixaban), you may need to stop taking these up to 7 days before the biopsy. Please telephone the x-ray department on 01484 342757 for instructions about stopping these medications. It is very important that you contact x-ray at least one week prior to the biopsy if you are taking a blood thinning medication. You can continue to take all other medications or injections as normal

The day of the procedure

Please bring any medications you are taking with you to the hospital. You can continue to eat and drink normally prior to the biopsy.

Please attend the ultrasound department at either Calderdale Royal Hospital or Huddersfield Royal Infirmary as detailed in your appointment letter. Please take care to attend the correct hospital, this may be different to the hospital in which you saw your Consultant.

Before performing the procedure the Doctor performing the test will explain the procedure and answer any further queries you may have. At this point you will be asked to sign a consent form.

The procedure

You will be awake for your biopsy and it is performed using a local anaesthetic in your skin (like at the dentist). You will lie on a couch, in the position that the radiologist feels is most suitable (usually on your back). A scan of your neck will be performed to identify the most suitable place to take the biopsy. The area of your skin will be cleaned with an antiseptic solution and covered with a sterile sheet to minimise the risk of infections. Local anaesthetic will then be injected into your skin which may sting for a few seconds then go numb.

The biopsy will then be taken using a special needle. Usually at least two samples are taken. It is not unusual for more to be required. You may feel some slight discomfort during the procedure but once the last sample is taken the needle will be removed and a small dressing will be applied. The procedure will last for approximately 30 minutes.

After your neck biopsy

You will be asked to sit in the waiting area and apply some firm pressure to the site of the biopsy for 15-30 mins. A staff member will review you and if you are feeling well you will be allowed home. You are likely to be in the x-ray department for 1½ hours.

What else do I need to know, what risks are involved?

The small but main risk is of bleeding. This is almost always stopped by applying pressure to the area. Other rare complications would include infections (which is why the procedure is performed under clean conditions) and damage to structures next to the biopsy site such as blood vessels or nerves (which is why we use ultrasound). We take care to minimise all risks with all our actions.

Discharge home

You can not drive home from your appointment. It is advisable to be accompanied home by a responsible person so that if you feel unwell they can seek help. You should be able to resume normal activities the day following the procedure.

If you need more information contact the ultrasound department in x-ray on 01484 342757, or your consultant via his/her secretary.

If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact :

Ultrasound
Radiology Department
Huddersfield Royal Infirmary
Telephone No: 01484 342757

www.cht.nhs.uk

If you would like this information in another format or language contact the above.

Potřebujete-li tyto informace v jiném formátu nebo jazyce, obraťte se prosím na výše uvedené oddělení

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych informacji w innym formacie lub wersji językowej, prosimy skontaktować się z nami, korzystając z ww. danych kontaktowych

ਰ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਪ੍ਰਾਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ,
ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور فارمیٹ کی زبان میں درکار ہوں، تو
برائے مہربانی مندرجہ بالا شعبے میں ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔

"إذا احتجت الحصول على هذه المعلومة بشكل مغاير أو مترجمة إلى لغة مختلفة فيرجى منك الاتصال بالقسم
المذكور أعلاه"

