

Fluoroscopic-guided biopsy

Patient information leaflet

**If you need this leaflet in a different language or accessible format
please speak to a member of staff who can arrange it for you.**

اگر به این بروشور به زبان دیگر یا در قالب دسترس پذیر نیاز دارید،
لطفاً با یکی از کارکنان صحبت کنید تا آن را برای شما تهیه کند.

Jeśli niniejsza ulotka ma być dostępna w innym języku lub formacie,
proszę skontaktować się z członkiem personelu, który ją dla Państwa przygotowuje.

Dacă aveți nevoie de această broșură într-o altă limbă sau într-un format accesibil,
vă rog să discutați cu un membru al personalului să se ocupe
de acest lucru pentru dumneavoastră

如果您需要本传单的其他语言版本或无障碍格式，请联系工作人员为您安排。

إذا احتجت إلى هذه النشرة بلغة أخرى، أو بتنسيق
يسهل الوصول إليه، يرجى التحدث إلى أحد الموظفين لترتيب ذلك لك.

Why do I need a biopsy?

An abnormality will have been detected in your bones on one of your previous scans. If the cause of the abnormality is not certain, a bone biopsy can help identify the cause and guide your future management.

What do I need to check before the procedure?

Some blood-thinning medications may need to be stopped before the biopsy. This will be discussed with you over the telephone or during a clinic appointment. Common examples include aspirin, warfarin, clopidogrel, edoxaban and rivaroxaban.

You usually can not have the procedure if you are pregnant, but this is decided on a case by case basis.

What happens on the day of the procedure?

You will report to the Radiology Department where you be asked to change into a hospital gown.

The Radiologist performing the biopsy will speak to you and answer any questions or address any concerns you may have. If you decide to go ahead with the biopsy, you will be asked to sign a consent form. You can still change your mind after signing the form. There is a very small chance you may need to stay overnight in the hospital, so please bring an overnight bag with you.

You should not drive after the procedure, as your car insurance may not be valid. Ideally, someone should pick you up after the procedure.

What happens during the procedure?

You will be asked to lie still on the X-ray scanner bed. The exact position you will be in depends on the location of the structure we are targeting. However you will usually be lying on your front or your back. You will be awake for the whole procedure.

X-rays will be taken to guide the biopsy. Your skin will then be cleaned and drapes applied to keep the area sterile. Local anaesthetic will be used to numb the skin, and a small cut is made in the skin using a scalpel. The biopsy needle is then guided down to the bone, whilst the Radiologist takes images with the X-ray machine to ensure the needle position is correct. You will need to keep still during this time.

Once the area of interest is reached with the needle, one or two biopsy samples will be taken. You may feel some discomfort or pressure whilst the biopsies are taken.

Once the samples have been taken a dressing will be applied to the wound. The whole procedure takes between 30-60 minutes. If you are in discomfort at any point, please let the Radiologist know.

What happens after the procedure?

You will be taken to the recovery area by a member of staff where you will be observed for around 30 minutes to 60 minutes. If you feel well after this time, and we think you are well enough, you will be able to go home. It is recommended that someone picks you up and that you rest at home for the rest of the day to allow the biopsy site to heal.

What should I do when I get home after the procedure?

Please do not drive for 24 hours, and avoid strenuous exercise or lifting.
Please keep the dressing of the wound dry for 3 days. It can be removed after this time.

What are the risks of the procedure?

The most common complications are:

- Pain and bruising.
- Haematoma (A collection of blood that collects outside of a blood vessel under the skin).

Pain and bruising resolves relatively quickly, and we can give more anaesthetic to help with the pain. A haematoma often resolves on its own, but this can take a few weeks, and sometimes months, to fully resolve. There is a small chance a haematoma can become infected, so please see your GP if you notice it becoming painful and you are feeling unwell.

The rare complications include:

- Infection.
- Damage to surrounding structures such as nerves, muscles, blood vessels and other organs.
- Bone fracture.

The area is cleaned well to reduce the risk of infection.

Careful planning reduces the risk of damaging other structures or causing a fracture of the bone.

What are the risks from exposure to radiation?

Exposure to X-rays does result in an increased risk of getting cancer, although this is thought to be small. The amount of radiation is usually equivalent to the natural radiation we are exposed to over a period of around 3 years.

The risks of radiation are slightly higher for an unborn child. Therefore we ask all patients up to the age of 55 about their periods and/or possibility of being pregnant. We may not be able to do the procedure if you are pregnant — but this is decided on a case by case basis.

Do all biopsies provide a diagnosis?

There is a chance the procedure is not successful (around 1 in 10), and a sample of tissue can not be obtained. If this is the case you may need an alternative procedure, or the bone biopsy may possibly be repeated. There is also a chance the sample extracted is not good enough to make a diagnosis, and a repeat biopsy may be needed.

How do I get the results?

It usually takes 1 to 2 weeks for the full results, but it can take longer. The results will be sent to the doctor who referred you for the biopsy.

What if I need to talk to someone about the procedure.

If you have any questions or concerns, or need to make a change to the appointment, please contact the Radiology Department.

There may be students and observers present during your consultation as part of their ongoing training. Please let the staff know if you do not wish any students to be present during your attendance.

Please ask a member of staff if you would like a chaperone present during your procedure.

Whiston Hospital
Warrington Road,
Prescot, Merseyside, L35 5DR
Telephone: 0151 426 1600

St Helens Hospital
Marshall's Cross Road,
St Helens, Merseyside, WA9 3DA Tele-
phone: 01744 26633

Southport Hospital
Town Lane, Kew,
Southport, Merseyside,
PR8 6PN
Telephone: 01704 547 471

Ormskirk Hospital
Dicconson Way, Wigan Road,
Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 2AZ
Telephone: 01695 577 111