

CT Lung Biopsy

Patient Information Sheet No. Int 2

Your appointment:

Date:

Time:

Location:

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Please see our website or the back of this form for more branch details.

Patient preparation:

Nothing to eat or drink for four hours prior to the appointment.

Please inform us if you take blood-thinning medication (Aspirin, Warfarin, Clopidogrel, etc). You may need to have a blood-clotting test before the procedure and have your medication adjusted by your doctor.

Duration of Examination:

Approximately 30 minutes plus post-procedure care.

Please bring with you:

- Your request form
- All previous relevant imaging
- Medicare and any Healthcare cards

Payment on the day of the examination is requested.

For more information on this procedure please call one of our branches.

For more information regarding Benson Radiology please visit:
www.bensonradiology.com.au

What is a CT biopsy?

When an abnormality is found within the lung, a needle biopsy may be necessary. The biopsy involves removing a small piece of tissue for examination

What will happen during the examination?

You will be asked to change into a gown and lie on the CT examination table. CT imaging is used to accurately locate the area of interest. A safe biopsy path is planned and the entry site marked. You may be asked to hold your breath for a few seconds during this imaging. It is important you try to keep as still as possible during the procedure. Your skin will be cleansed to create sterile conditions. A local anaesthetic is injected.

A radiologist (specialist medical imaging doctor) will then position a needle using CT guidance within the area of interest and a small tissue sample is taken. For some biopsies, you may hear the noise of the biopsy equipment. This is routine and should not be of concern. Several specimens may be required. The needle will then be removed. Once any bleeding has stopped at the site of needle entry, a bandage will be applied. Bleeding should be minimal.

Are there any risks?

You will receive a small dose of x-ray radiation. **Please advise the radiographer if you are, or think you may be, pregnant.**

The most common risk is a leak of air into the tissue surrounding the lung (pneumothorax). This generally is asymptomatic (without symptoms) and resolves without treatment. A chest x-ray the next day may be required to monitor this. Sometimes the leak is large (5 in 100 people) and the lung may collapse causing chest discomfort and shortness of breath. If this occurs a tube may need to be inserted to drain the air. You will require hospitalisation for a few days until this resolves. People with emphysema are at greater risk.

Some bleeding or coughing of blood may occur. This is rarely excessive and requiring admission to hospital for observation and treatment. Other risks such as infection or injury to organs are very low.

If you have any symptoms or are concerned following your biopsy, please consult your doctor or present to an emergency department.

After the examination:

You will need to stay in our rooms for between two and four hours after the biopsy. Staff will take regular observations checking for possible complications. Chest x-ray(s) may also be performed as part of the monitoring process. You will need someone to drive you home. Please take this into account when booking your appointment.

You may experience some soreness at the biopsy site for which you may take paracetamol.

Your bandage may be removed one day following the procedure and you may bathe or shower as normal. You should not exert yourself physically or travel by airplane the night of, and for one full day following, your biopsy. On the second day, if you feel up to it, you may return to your normal activities.

The tissue sample will require detailed examination under microscope by a pathologist. We will not be able to give you any results directly after the procedure. The final results will be sent to your doctor by the pathologist. This may take up to a week. **It is important you visit your doctor to discuss the results.**

It is important you understand why and how we will be assisting you. If you have any questions, please call one of our branches or speak to our staff on the day of your visit.