

- Please arrive 1 hour prior to your appointment time
- Eat a light breakfast (toast/tea)
- Bring a list of all your current medication
- Stop taking your blood thinners 5 days before your appointment
- Take all of your heart/blood pressure medications
- If you are diabetic, take all of your medications
- Have a responsible person accompany you and drive you home

ON THE DAY OF YOUR APPOINTMENT



Please report to the Diagnostic Imaging Department 1 hour prior to your appointment time.

Diagnostic Imaging Department, Level 0
Juravinski Innovation Tower
Charlton Campus



Don't forget to allow time for parking.



If you have any questions or need to cancel your appointment please call:

905-522-1155 ext. 35278



What you need to know about **LUNG BIOPSIES**

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND PREPARATION
INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

What is a lung biopsy?

A biopsy is a procedure where a needle is inserted into the lung to take a small piece of tissue for lab testing.

A special needle is used to do this. The needle is put into the lung through the skin on the chest and a tissue sample is taken.

Why do I need a lung biopsy?

Tests have shown that there is an abnormality in your lung. The biopsy will give your doctor more information about the cause of the abnormality. This information will be used to plan the best treatment for you.

Where will the biopsy be done?

The biopsy will be done in the Diagnostic Imaging Department by a specially trained doctor called a radiologist, who will use x-ray imaging to do the biopsy. Our team consists of doctors, nurses and medical radiation technologists

How do I get ready for the biopsy?

Have a light breakfast the day of the procedure. Please take all of your medications except blood thinners with a small sip of water, especially heart and blood pressure pills. When you arrive in the Diagnostic Imaging Department, a nurse will get you ready for the procedure. An intravenous (iv) will be placed in your arm. You will be asked about your medical history and any medications that you are taking. You will change into a hospital gown for the procedure. The radiologist will explain the procedure and answer any questions that you may have. If you agree to the procedure, you will be asked to sign a consent form.

What will happen during the procedure?

You will be positioned on the x-ray table either lying on your back or stomach. CT images will be taken to localize the area of the lesion or abnormality. Local anesthetic is injected to numb the skin and deeper tissues. The nurse will give you medications to help you relax and reduce your pain if needed. The radiologist will use x-ray guidance to insert a needle into the lung tissue. Several specimens (pieces of tissue) will be taken and sent to the lab for testing. The needle will be removed and a small bandage will be placed on the insertion site.

How long will the biopsy take?

It will take about 30 minutes for the whole procedure. You will be at the hospital for about 5 hours in total.

What will happen after the lung biopsy?

You will be taken to the Day Surgery department where you will rest in bed for 3 to 4 hours. You may have a chest x-ray after the biopsy and again before you are discharged. You will be able to eat and drink. When the rest period is over you will be discharged home. A responsible adult must accompany you home and stay with you overnight.

If you are planning to travel by air in the next few weeks consult with your doctor first

The results of the biopsy will be sent to the ordering doctor and your family physician. This takes approximately 5 to 7 days.

What are the risks and complications?

Haemoptysis (coughing up blood) and pueumothorax (a partial or full collapse of the lung) are potential complications of lung biopsy. The staff is fully trained to deal with this if it happens.