

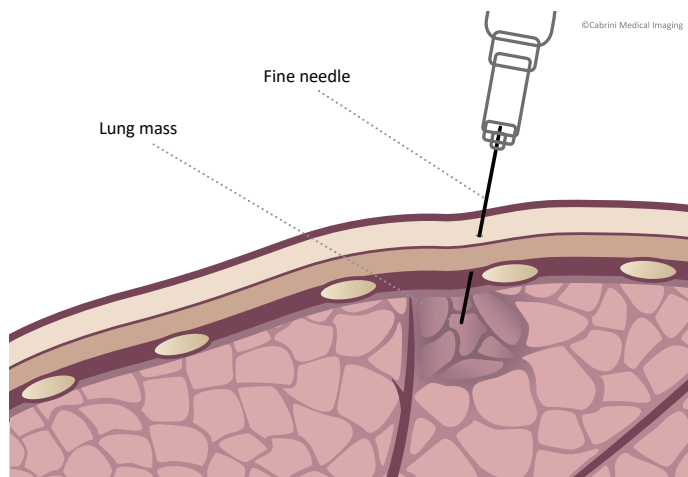
# Lung biopsy

## What is a lung biopsy?

Your doctor has asked that you have a lung biopsy performed with us. This is because your doctor wants a small sample of tissue taken so it can be looked at by a pathology doctor.

Lung biopsies are done under imaging guidance so that the small sample is collected from the correct area. Most commonly a CT scanner is used for this purpose.

It is important you read the following information so that you will be able to consent to this procedure. If you have any further questions you will be given an opportunity to ask nursing or medical staff on the day.



## Before you come in for the procedure

You will be contacted by the Cabrini Medical Imaging with a date and time for your procedure and you will be asked to go to the admissions department one hour prior to your appointment time, as you will be admitted to the hospital as a 'day case'. This does not mean you will be in the hospital for the whole day.

You will be given instructions by Cabrini Medical Imaging. Please take note of the following and contact the department on the number below if you have any concerns.

- Unless instructed otherwise, we require you to fast (NO food or liquid) for **four hours** prior to your procedure. Please continue to take any regular medication/s with a sip of water, with the exception of any medications you have been asked to cease.

- If you are on any blood thinning medication, please make sure you let staff know as soon as possible, as this could affect the ability to do your procedure. Please check with your GP if unsure of your medication.
- On the day of your procedure please bring a list of your current medications (this includes over-the-counter medications, and herbal remedies)
- Please make sure you have someone to drive you home, as you are not permitted to drive until the following day)

## How your lung biopsy will proceed

From the admissions department, you will be taken to the medical imaging department where you will be prepared for your procedure, and taken to the appropriate room.

At this point you have an opportunity to ask one of the nursing staff further questions or to speak to the doctor performing the biopsy. You will then be positioned on the table where the procedure is to be done.

Once you have been placed in the appropriate position, it is very important that you remain still for the rest of the procedure. During the scan you will be asked to hold your breath. It is important that you follow these breathing instructions.

After washing your skin with antiseptic, a small amount of local anaesthetic will be injected under the skin in the relevant area. This usually stings for a moment. The doctor will then place the needle into position using an x-ray or CT scanning machine to guide the needle to the correct position.

Once the needle is in the correct position a small sample will be taken. This is sometimes checked with a pathology doctor, who will confirm that the sample is adequate for testing. They cannot give a result at this time. (The results will usually be available to your referring doctor within 48 hours).

At this point the procedure is finished, but it is important to remain in the same position until otherwise requested.

You will be then taken to a recovery area, where you will be observed for at least two hours. A chest x-ray will be performed during this time.

**As with all medical procedures there are associated risks and complications with having this procedure done, they can be broken down into common, rare and very rare.**

### Common risks and complications

- Discomfort to the area, following the injection. This may be due to the tissues being aggravated by the procedure.
- You may cough up a small amount of blood
- Small cough
- Bleeding or bruising to the localised area

### Rare risks and complications

- Infection, which could require additional treatment, possibly antibiotics
- Bleeding in the lung causing you to cough up larger amounts of blood
- The lung may collapse (pneumothorax), requiring further chest x-rays and monitoring. You may need to stay in hospital for longer.
- Allergy to medications used during this procedure
- Adequate tissue may not be collected requiring further investigations to obtain a diagnosis

### Very rare risks and complications

- More substantial bleeding in the lung, requiring medical intervention, and a longer hospital stay
- The lung may collapse a large amount requiring medical intervention and a longer hospital stay

### How do I get my results?

Digital images are immediately available to your doctor and your records will be kept permanently. This occurs through a system called PACS. **If a priority report is requested it will be issued within two hours and faxed or emailed to your doctor, however this can sometimes take up to 24 hours.**

If your referring doctor wants to see you on the day of your examination, please advise the reception staff when you arrive for your appointment, so the appropriate information can be made available for you to take to your doctor.

### Important

**It is important to let us know when you make your booking if you are or think you may be pregnant or are breastfeeding.**

It is important to bring with you your referral, previous x-rays and any other tests (only if previous ones were **not** done at Cabrini or I-MED).

### Questions

For more information or to make an appointment, please contact Cabrini Medical Imaging using the number below.