

Patient information

Ultrasound Guided Biopsy Examination – Appointment Details

Radiology Department

Before your examination you must

- Not eat for six hours before the examination. Sips of water may be taken. Continue all medication as normal.
- If you are have diabetes, see overleaf.
- If you have not followed the above preparation your ultrasound scan will be delayed or may even need to be rebooked for a later date.

What is an ultrasound guided biopsy examination?

This test is routinely performed in the ultrasound department. It involves taking a small piece of tissue or fluid, using a fine needle. This procedure will be performed by a Radiologist, who will use an ultrasound scanner for guidance.

You may wish to discuss alternative treatments or procedures. Please ask a doctor or nurse if alternative treatments or procedures are available.

What are the benefits of this procedure?

This procedure enables the Radiologist to accurately obtain a piece of tissue from the area of interest. This will help us make the correct diagnosis so you will be able to get the correct treatment.

What are the risks of this procedure?

- The complication rate for needle biopsy under ultrasound control is much lower than for a biopsy in theatre under general anaesthetic. As a result, any complications tend to be minor.
- Bleeding can occur, and it is important to inform the doctor if you are on anticoagulant treatment. A pressure dressing would be applied over the puncture site to limit any bleeding.
- A local anaesthetic will be used. Local anaesthesia is drug-induced numbness: it may be provided by an anaesthetist, surgeon or other healthcare professional, depending on the technique used. Unfortunately, local anaesthesia can cause side effects and complications.

Side effects are common, but are usually short-lived: they include nausea, confusion and pain. Complications are very rare, but can cause lasting injury: they include awareness, paralysis and death.

The risks of anaesthesia and surgery are lower for those who are undergoing minor surgery, and who are young, fit, active and well. You will be given an opportunity to discuss anaesthetic options and risks before your procedure.

The examination

You will be required to change into a hospital gown on the ward. There is no need to remove your jewellery, glasses, contact lenses or false teeth. You will then be escorted to the ultrasound room.

The Radiologist performs the biopsy but other staff may also be present. A verbal explanation will be given, and you will be asked to consent to this procedure. The Radiologist will then perform the pre biopsy ultrasound examination.

A small amount of gel will be spread over the part of your body to be examined. Once the region of interest has been located a local anaesthetic may be used to freeze the area. The Radiologist will perform the biopsy by inserting the small needle under sterile conditions using ultrasound guidance.

The sample obtained is examined in pathology to assist in your treatment. The examination will take approximately 40 minutes.

After the examination

Once a satisfactory sample has been taken the region will be cleaned and a dressing applied. If you are an outpatient you will normally be able to go home immediately after the examination. If you are a ward patient you will be returned to the ward for further observation.

Do not hesitate to ask ultrasound or ward staff if you have any questions.

Results

Your results will be sent back to the doctor who requested this examination. This usually takes between seven and ten days.

If you have diabetes

You should have received an appointment before 9.00am or after 1.00pm. If not please speak to the sister of your ward, as we are not always aware of your condition.

- For morning appointments take no morning insulin or tablets.
- If you have an afternoon appointment you can have breakfast and your medication, but no lunch.

Please bring your medication and some food with you, which can be taken immediately after the scan.

Cancellations

If you are unable to keep this appointment, please let us know as soon as possible and we will arrange another for you.

If you fail to cancel and do not attend you will not be sent another appointment.

Transport

Transport has not been arranged for this appointment so it will be necessary for you to make your own arrangements.

If you have been referred to us from clinic and usually have an ambulance to bring you for your appointment, please contact the Appointments office as soon as possible.

If you have been referred to us by your family doctor (GP) and require an ambulance please contact their surgery.

Car parking

Car parking for visitors and patients is available at the Q-Park multi-storey car park located across the road from the front entrance of the hospital. Vehicle entry to the car park is on Epworth Street which is off Erskine Street. The car park is open 24 hours a day seven days a week and charges apply. The car park is continually monitored by CCTV and parking attendants.

There are disabled spaces within the car park. If you require help with parking ask a parking host at the car park entrance. There is a bus shuttle service for patients with mobility problems which operates Monday to Friday 8.45am to 4.45pm from Q-Park to the Royal Liverpool University Hospital

Please bring this leaflet with you when you attend the ultrasound department, which is located within the main X-ray department at the Royal Liverpool Hospital.

Feedback

Your feedback is important to us and helps us influence care in the future

Following your discharge from hospital or attendance at your outpatient appointment you will receive a text asking if you would recommend our service to others. Please take the time to text back, you will not be charged for the text and can opt out at any point. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

Further Information

If you have any further questions, or require further information, please contact the Appointments office:

Tel: 0151 706 2759

Text phone Number: 18001 0151 706 2759

All Trust approved information is available on request in alternative formats, including other languages, easy read, large print, audio, Braille, moon and electronically.

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در صورت تمایل می‌توانید کلیه اطلاعات تصویب شده توسط اتحادیه در رابطه با بیماران را به اشکال مختلف در دسترس داشته باشید، از جمله به زبانهای دیگر، به زبان ساده، چاپ درشت، صوت، خط مخصوص کوران، مون و بصورت روی خطی موجود است.

زانیاری پیوندیدار بهو نه‌خوشانه‌ی له‌لایمن تراسته‌وه په‌سند کراون، نه‌گمر داوا بکریټ له فزرماته‌کانی تردا بریتی له زمانه‌کانی تر، نیزی رید (هاسان خویندنه‌وه)، چاپی گموره، شریټی دهنگ، هیټلی موون و ئه‌لټیکټرونیکی همیه.

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