Information You Need to Know Before Coming for Your Biopsy

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Wythenshawe Hospital for your lung biopsy.

**Before you arrive**

You were given a provisional place, date, and time for your biopsy by your referring doctor which should be confirmed by telephone before you attend the hospital. If you haven’t spoken with someone to confirm the appointment date and time 48 hours before the provisional booking date, please call the telephone number below to confirm.

If you have any communication issues, memory problems or other concerns, please contact the biopsy booking team on the number on page 3.

A nurse will also call before the biopsy to discuss the procedure with you.

If you take blood-thinning medication or injections, have a family history of bleeding or are diabetic, and this has not already been discussed in the clinic, please let us know by contacting the number below.

**On the day of your biopsy**

You will be advised to have a light early breakfast prior to your biopsy, after which you will need to fast, that is nothing more to eat or drink. You will remain fasted once you arrive at the hospital and for a short while after your biopsy is completed.

Apart from blood thinning medication, you should take your usual medication in the morning before coming in. It is okay to have a small amount of water to take these.

Please bring a full list of your medications with you.

Please come to Entrance 3 and follow the yellow signs for North West Lung Centre. From there, the Bronchoscopy Unit is signposted. Go to the right side of the chest clinic reception, take the first green door on the right, past a seating area and through another set of green double doors to Bronchoscopy reception where you will be met by our receptionist or a bronchoscopy nurse.

The best place to park is Car Park A. This is in front of Entrance 3. There is disabled parking on the outer road of this car park. Parking is normally easy at this time of day.

Your family or friends accompanying you can come to Bronchoscopy Unit while you settle in.

On arrival the nursing team will admit you and take observations before your procedure.

If you have questions about your procedure, please let someone know so that these can be discussed before the biopsy.

**Who will care for me?**

The Bronchoscopy nursing team admit you and recover you in the Bronchoscopy Unit.

During the procedure the nursing team from bronchoscopy look after you.

You will be recovered for 1 hour. You will have a chest X-ray, which the doctors will check. If there are no concerns from the chest X-ray you will be able to go home. If there is a concern that there has been a complication from your biopsy, then the doctors may advise that you need to stay in hospital for observation or treatment. We will discuss this with you at the time if this is the case.

**Do I have to stay in hospital?**

Most patients do not stay in hospital overnight and go home the same day.

If you have no-one who can stay with you overnight after your biopsy, an overnight stay in hospital will be arranged but we must be made aware of this **before** you arrive.

A minority of patients have complications which will result in an overnight stay if the doctors feel it is necessary.

**Who do I contact afterwards if I have questions or worries?**

You must live within 30 minutes of an emergency department and have someone with you for 24 hours after your procedure to help you ask for advice or help if you experience any side effects.

If you are in any way worried after your biopsy about pain, breathing or bleeding symptoms, seek urgent medical help from your nearest Emergency Department as directed when you are discharged.

If you have a chest drain inserted for an air leak that you go home with, you will be advised when and where to come for review so that this can be removed.

**How soon can I…?**

You are advised not to undertake strenuous exercise or heavy lifting for 24 hours after your biopsy procedure.

We advise you not to smoke or vape following your biopsy. We can offer smoking cessation help and tobacco alternatives during your recovery time if you wish.

If you have an air leak, you cannot fly until you have had confirmation from a doctor that the air leak has healed (usually 6 weeks).

We advise not to restart blood thinning medications for at least 24 hours after the procedure. Ask your radiologist at the time of your biopsy when to restart any blood-thinning medication you normally take.

**Who can I ask for advice about my biopsy?**

Appointment or nurse enquiries, please contact Biopsy booking office on (0161) 291 4372 - Monday to Friday between 9.00am - 5.00pm.

**How to find us?**

<https://mft.nhs.uk/wythenshawe/patients-visitors/visitors/getting-to-the-hospital/>



