



Having a Soft Tissue Biopsy

What is a biopsy and why is it needed?

A biopsy is a minor procedure that is done to remove a sample of tissue and this is sent to a specially trained pathologist to be analysed. It is one of the investigations that are necessary for the multi-disciplinary team to make a diagnosis at the Multi-Disciplinary Team Meeting (MDT).

How is the biopsy done?

You will have your biopsy carried out in the oncology clinic or in the Ultrasound Suite. A small incision is made to remove a sample of tissue under local anaesthetic. The sample is transported to our specialist laboratory where the tissue is examined and a diagnosis is made.

What are the risks ?

- There is a small risk of infection.
- It is possible that the biopsy may need to be repeated

When will I know the result?

The biopsy result and the results of your other scans and X-Rays are discussed by the specialist team at our weekly MDT meeting and treatment is planned. This takes approximately 10 – 14 days, but can sometimes take longer. You will be contacted as soon as the result is available either by telephone or letter. You may decide to return to the oncology clinic for your results or you can choose to have your results from your GP. You will be asked how you prefer to receive your results at the time you have your biopsy taken.

How will I feel after the biopsy ?

You may experience some discomfort following the biopsy and you should find that simple painkillers like Paracetamol will be sufficient. If you think you may need any stronger painkillers please ask your GP for a prescription.

Care of the biopsy site.

- There will be a small wound, this will be closed using steristrips (butterfly stitches) and covered with an absorbant dressing.
- The dressing and steristrips should be left in place for 24 – 48 hours and then you should carefully peel off the dressing and the steristrips.
- When these have been removed check that the wound is clean, dry and healed.
- If you experience any bleeding apply pressure to the wound and add a dressing.

Who to contact for information

If you have any queries or concerns regarding the biopsy or wish to contact a member of the multi-disciplinary team, please make contact with the appropriate secretary or nurse specialist/ Macmillan keyworker:



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Consultant	Secretary	Macmillan Key Worker / Nurse Specialist
Mr Parry	0121 685 4045	Andrea Slade 0121 685 4052
Professor Jeys	0121 685 4359	Andrea Slade 0121 685 4052
Mr Tillman	0121 685 4399	Emma Ward 0121 685 4000 ext. 55274
Mr Stevenson	0121 685 4037	Debra Dunne 0121 685 4031
Mr Morris	0121 685 4021	Debra Dunne 0121 685 4031
Mr Kurisunkal	0121 685 4045	Nerys Davies 0121 685 4031
Professor Abudu	0121 685 4151	Emma Ward 0121 685 4000 ext. 55274
Mr Evans	0121 685 4265	Emma Ward 0121 685 4000 ext. 55274
Mr Srinivasan and Ms Foong	0121 685 4265	

Oncology Nurse Consultant:

Anita Killingworth - 0121 685 4031

Teenage Cancer Trust Clinical Nurse Specialist for patients aged 16-24:

Jane Forsythe - 0121 685 4368

Macmillan Navigators:

Amy Poppitt and Lucy Bishton - 0121 685 4031

Radiology Secretary

Julie Wells - 0121 685 4000 ext. 55851

Confidentiality

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