

When will I get the results?

The radiologist can tell you if there is enough tissue for testing.

To find out the results of the test, make an appointment with the doctor who asked for this test.

Care at home

You might cough up a small amount of blood. This is normal.

Rest for the remainder of the day.

If needed, take plain acetaminophen (Tylenol) for pain.

When to get help

Call your doctor if you have:

- Fever above 38.5°C (101°F), aches and chills
- Redness and warmth around the needle site

Go to the nearest Emergency

Department if you have any of the following:

- Sudden shortness of breath
- Chest pain
- Severe weakness, dizziness, or fainting

HealthLinkBC

8-1-1

Call any time you have any questions or concerns. HealthLinkBC is open 24 hours.

Available in 130 languages.

For an interpreter, say your language in English.

Wait until an interpreter comes on the phone.

Locations

Abbotsford-Regional Hospital 604-851-4866
Medical Imaging 2nd Floor, Fraser Wing
32900 Marshall Road, Abbotsford

BC Cancer Agency 604-877-6000
Medical Imaging, 3rd Floor, 600 West 10th Ave, Vancouver

Burnaby Hospital 604-434-4211
Medical Imaging, 3rd Floor, 3935 Kincaid Street, Burnaby

Chilliwack General Hospital 604-795-4122
Medical Imaging, Main Floor
45600 Menholm Rd, Chilliwack

Jim Pattison Outpatient Care and Surgery Centre 604-533-3308
ext. 63926
Medical Imaging, 2nd Floor, 9750 140th Street, Surrey

Langley Memorial Hospital 604-533-6405
Medical Imaging, Main Floor
22051 Fraser Highway, Langley

Lions Gate Hospital 604-984-5775
Medical Imaging, Lower Level
231 East 15th Street, North Vancouver

Mount Saint Joseph Hospital 604-877-8323
Medical Imaging, Level one
3080 Prince Edward Street, Vancouver

Richmond Hospital 604-278-9711
Medical Imaging, Main Floor
7000 Westminster Hwy, Richmond

Ridge Meadows Hospital 604-463-1800
Medical Imaging, Main Floor, 11666 Lait St., Maple Ridge

Royal Columbian Hospital 604-520-4640
Medical Imaging, Columbia Tower
330 E. Columbia St., New Westminster

St. Paul's Hospital 604-806-8006
Medical Imaging, 2nd Floor, Providence Building
1081 Burrard Street, Vancouver

Surrey Memorial Hospital 604-588-3308
Medical Imaging, 1st Floor, Lower Level
13750 96th Avenue, Surrey

Vancouver General Hospital 604-875-4111
GI/GU Department, Jim Pattison Pavilion Ext 68612
Station 5, Ground Floor, 855 West 12th Avenue, Vancouver

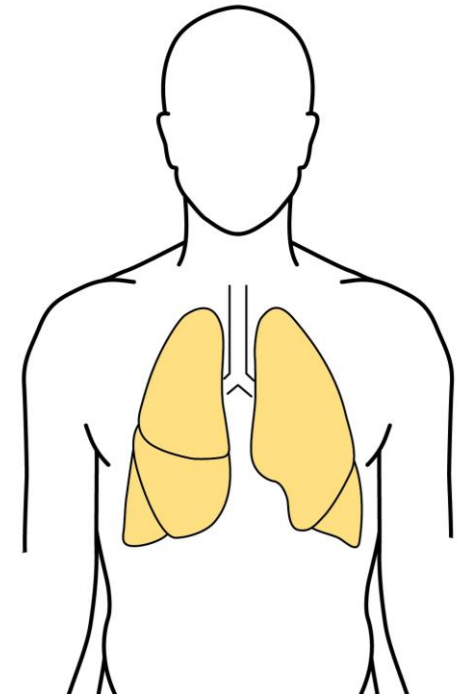
www.fraserhealth.ca – www.vch.ca

This information does not replace the advice given to you by your healthcare provider.

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Lung Biopsy



Follow-up Instructions/Appointment:

What is a Lung Biopsy?

A biopsy is a way of taking a small piece of tissue from your lung. We use CT scan or Fluoroscopy to locate the spot to biopsy. The tissue sample is examined under a microscope for a diagnosis. A lung biopsy is done to check for any abnormalities seen on other tests such as chest x-ray or a CT scan.

Who does the biopsy?

It is done by a radiologist (a doctor who specializes in image guided procedures).

Can I bring a relative or friend?

Yes, they can stay with you before and after the procedure. However, for reasons of safety and regulations, they cannot be in the room during the procedure. We will tell you where family members can wait.

What happens before the biopsy?

Our Medical Imaging Department contacts you with specific instructions on how to prepare for the biopsy.

How long will it take?

It takes about 1 hour for the scan and biopsy. You stay at least 2 hours afterwards to make sure you are well enough to leave.

You must arrange for a 'responsible adult' to take you home after this procedure.

What happens during the biopsy?

You lie down on the table of the CT scanner. A CT scan is done to confirm the location of the biopsy and the safest approach.

You are given numbing medicine to 'freeze' the skin.

You might feel some pressure when the biopsy needle is inserted. You will hear a clicking sound as the tissue sample is taken.

We will ask you to hold your breath a number of times. It is important that you stay very still and not cough during the procedure.

Once done and the biopsy needle is removed, we put pressure over the area to stop any bleeding.

Does it hurt?

It might sting or burn as the numbing medicine is injected. You should not feel any pain as the needle goes in. However, you might feel some pressure and discomfort as the tissue sample is taken.

What happens afterwards?

We move you to the recovery area. You rest in bed in either a sitting or lying position. The nurse lets you know when you can get up. During this time, the nurse checks your blood pressure, heart rate, breathing, and biopsy site. You will have a chest x-ray.

Are there any risks or complications?

A lung biopsy is generally a safe procedure. Complications are rare.

Any time the skin is pierced or cut, there is a chance of infection. Other possible complications include:

- bleeding at the site
- an air leak into the chest cavity (called a pneumothorax)
- bleeding into the chest cavity (called a hemothorax)
- coughing up blood

A pneumothorax or hemothorax can cause the lung to collapse. If either happens, a small tube might be inserted into the chest to drain the air or blood.

You can ask questions about the risks before you sign the consent form.