



**The Leeds
Teaching Hospitals**
NHS Trust

Having a bone biopsy

Information for patients



Leeds
Radiology

What is a bone biopsy?

A bone biopsy is a procedure where a needle is placed into the bone and a sample is taken.

What does it involve?

The procedure is performed with you lying on your front on the x-ray table. Your back will be cleaned and an injection will be used to numb the area. X-rays are used to guide the needle to the correct position and a sample is taken.

You are then required to rest in the department for two hours.

Who performs the procedure?

it is performed by a team of healthcare professionals which may include a radiographer, an advanced practitioner, an assistant and a radiologist.

How do I prepare for the procedure?

If you are on Warfarin or any blood thinning medication, please contact us on: **0113 392 3768**. Do not stop taking other medication.

You may continue to eat and drink.

In the Radiology Department

You will be given a gown to change into. Please do not bring large sums of money or items of value with you.

How long will I be in the department?

Allow three hours for your visit. The procedure usually takes 45 minutes with two hours bed rest after. Although we try to keep to your appointment time, there may be a delay due to emergency patients.

We are unable to provide any childcare so please make alternative arrangements.

Are there any risks?

Radiation

This procedure involves x-rays. Patients who are, or might be pregnant **must** inform a member of staff.

The amount of radiation used is more than an ordinary x-ray of the chest or body and is equal to the natural radiation we receive from the atmosphere over a period of approximately two years.

The risk from this radiation dose is very low.

Allergic reaction

Some patients may be allergic to the x-ray dye or medicines. This is very rare. If you have any allergies, please tell a member of staff.

Despite these small risks your doctor believes it is beneficial for you to have this procedure.

Do you ever fail to complete the procedure?

This procedure is usually successful. If, for any reason, we are unable to perform the procedure we will inform your doctor who will discuss the alternatives with you.

Following the procedure

We strongly advise that you do not drive for at least 12 hours following this procedure.

Are there any side effects?

You may have some pain around the site of the biopsy and you can take pain relief medication.

How will I get my results?

You will not be given your results on the day. The samples require processing which can take some time. The results will be sent to your hospital consultant and they will contact you.



What did you think of your care?

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Your views matter



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