

Thyroid Aspiration Biopsy

Your physician has recommended that you have a thyroid biopsy. This procedure may be performed in our office or at the hospital under ultrasound guidance. The nodule(s) on your thyroid will be examined by a physician for location and size. The neck area will then be cleaned and sprayed with a local anesthetic. The physician will make several passes (possibly up to 6 or 8) with a small needle to obtain a sample of thyroid cells for evaluation by a **pathologist**. The pathologist (physician) who works for a lab outside of our office will read the specimen and fax a copy of the results to our office.

The following risks are minimal: Bleeding from the injection site or from the adjacent blood vessel in the neck, damage to the nerves in the surrounding area, or bleeding into the vocal cords. The potential benefit of this procedure is to detect for possible cancerous or other abnormal cells.

You may remain on **MOST** medications; however **you must STOP all PLAVIX, Aspirin and Aspirin products such as Motrin, Aleve, and Advil for one week prior to this procedure. If you are taking COUMADIN or any other blood thinner please inform your physician immediately.**

Billing: Our office will verify your benefits and call you to inform you of your co-pay or deductible. This portion will be collected IN FULL the day of the biopsy. The biopsy will be cancelled if full payment is not rendered.

PLEASE NOTE:

Depending on your insurance you **may** receive a **separate bill** from a pathology department where the Pathologist (Physician) read your biopsy.

You will be able to drive to and from the appointment but are welcome to bring a friend or family member, but they will **NOT** be allowed in the room with you during the biopsy. This is practice policy. **Please DO NOT bring ANY children under the age 16 yrs to this appointment.**

After your biopsy you will receive a call with results in **10 business days**. If you do not receive a call from our office within this time please call us at the number below.

Please note: A fine needle aspiration biopsy is an attempt to collect cells from a nodule on your thyroid gland. These biopsy results can also come back inconclusive and inadequate, requiring additional biopsies and/or discussion with your physician about other options. Every attempt will be made to obtain the cells needed to make a definitive diagnosis. If a second biopsy is scheduled, same charges apply as above.

After Care Instructions

1. No heavy lifting or exercising for 24 hours.
2. No aspirin for 48 hours, however, you may take Tylenol (acetaminophen). You may also use a covered ice pack 20 minutes on and 20 minute off for the first few days
3. Try to avoid neck trauma. Avoid blows or bumps to the neck.
4. Gentle cleansing around biopsy site is ok.
5. Watch for signs of infection which include: redness, warmth, or yellowish drainage from area of biopsy.
6. Call our office immediately 770-339-1387 Option #2 for any swelling or increasing tenderness.
7. Call in 7 working days for your results.

If you have any further questions please call:

Rebecca Minter, LPN, Clinical Manager, at 678-252-2371