



TRANSTHORACIC LUNG BIOPSY (FLEURIMONT HOSPITAL)

Your doctor has ordered a transthoracic lung biopsy for you. This examination involves passing a small needle through the ribs to remove a tiny piece of lung tissue to assess abnormalities such as infection, inflammation, benign noncancerous tumors, and malignant tumors, thus avoiding the need for surgery.

THE PROCEDURE

- You should allow a full day for the procedure (including explanations, the procedure itself, and post-procedure X-rays). It could take longer depending on the observation time after the procedure.
- The biopsy is performed by a radiologist, who passes a small needle through the ribs to take a tiny piece of lung tissue.
- Radiological images are taken to guide the puncture, locate the organs, choose the right entry point for the needle, and track its path.

PREPARING FOR THE PROCEDURE

- You might have to have some blood tests. If so, the doctor will tell you.
- Check your medication list with your doctor. You might be asked to temporarily stop taking certain medications, such as blood thinners, certain painkillers, anti-inflammatory drugs, and others. Some examples are Coumadin, Plavix, and Aspirin. If necessary, the doctor will let you when to do so.
- If you use inhalers, do so as usual.
- It is important not to eat, drink, or smoke (i.e., you need to be fasting) since midnight the day before the procedure.

DAY OF THE PROCEDURE

- The biopsy usually takes about 20 to 30 minutes.
- You'll have to put on a hospital gown and lie on an examination table. Your skin will be disinfected, then the doctor will inject a local anesthetic to numb the area before inserting the needle. In some cases, the patient is given intravenous sedation.
- During the examination, breathe calmly and avoid coughing, talking, or moving to ensure accuracy and prevent complications.
- Once the biopsy has been performed, the needle is removed and a bandage applied to the skin.

CANCELING OR RESCHEDULING THE PROCEDURE

If you need to cancel or reschedule your appointment, use the contact details in the checklist on the next page.

WHAT TO BRING FOR THE PROCEDURE

- Your valid health insurance card (otherwise, you will have to pay for the procedure).
- Your valid hospital card (otherwise, you will have to go to Reception and Admitting to obtain a card before your appointment).
- You may be asked to provide a list of your medications.
- A bag for your personal belongings. Do not bring any valuables or jewelry with you. The hospital is not liable for any lost or stolen items.

AFTER THE PROCEDURE

- You'll spend a few hours in the observation room. If necessary, you may have to remain in the hospital for approximately 24 hours after the procedure. Be sure to bring some personal belongings.
- It is quite normal to cough up blood in the hours following the biopsy.
- You will have two chest X-rays.
- Keep the dressing on for 24 hours and avoid getting it wet (bathing, spa, pool, etc.).
- If you received intravenous sedation, you might need to arrange transportation home.

ONCE BACK HOME

- It is normal to feel a little pain at the biopsy site, which might be swollen and bleed a little. If necessary, apply ice and take acetaminophen (Tylenol). Refrain from taking ibuprofen (Advil) or aspirin (Aspirin), as they increase the risk of bleeding.
- You should rest for at least 24 hours after the procedure. Refrain from any type of strenuous exercise for the next 48 hours (including straining during a bowel movement). Refrain from lifting anything over 5 pounds for the next 48 hours.
- Refrain from shouting or speaking loudly for the next 48 hours.
- Refrain from flying for three days after the biopsy.

Consult your doctor or go to the emergency room if:

- You have difficulty breathing and significant chest pain.
- Your coughing up of blood persists or increases.
- You feel increasingly out of breath or have difficulty breathing.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS



santeestrie.qc.ca/imaging



Info-Santé 811
OR
Consul your prescriber

CHECKLIST

Date of my appointment: _____

Fleurimont Hospital
3001 12th Avenue North, Sherbrooke
Sherbrooke, QC, J1H 5N4

To cancel or reschedule your procedure, please contact Admissions: 819 346-1110, Ext. 14520

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Revision and layout

Service des communications

Direction des ressources humaines, des communications et des affaires juridiques

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