Will it hurt?
You will be given local anaesthetic to numb the area. You may be aware of some pressure from the needle as the sample is been taken.

Are there complications to this procedure?
A CT guided lung biopsy is a very safe procedure, but there are a few risks and complications that may arise, as with any medical procedure. The doctor will advise you of these when you are discussion your consent to the procedure.

What can I expect after the procedure?
- You will return to the Day Surgery Centre / Ward after your procedure where the nurses will check your heart rate, blood pressure, oxygen level and wound site.
- You will be given oxygen for two hours.
- You will be required to stay in bed for three hours and lie on your unaffected side.
- You will have Chest X-ray 3 hours after your procedure in the X-ray department.
- You will then be given something to eat and drink.

Will I be able to go home after the procedure?
If your Chest X-ray is satisfactory you will be able to go home. A relative / friend will be required to collect you and stay with you for 24 hours.

When can I get my results?
A member of the team will contact you regarding a follow up appointment.

What to do if you have any problems after you have been discharged:
If you experience any respiratory problems i.e. shortness of breath, pain after discharge, please return to your nearest Accident and Emergency Department.

Who can I talk to if I have other questions about the CT Guided Lung Biopsy?
Please contact the Lung Cancer Co-ordinators
01-4103000 Bleep 101
What Is a CT Guided Lung Biopsy?

A CT Guided Lung Biopsy is a test where tiny sample of tissue (biopsy) is taken from your lungs and sent for analysis.

Why do I need a CT Guided Lung Biopsy?

- Other tests you have had, such as a CT or PET scan, have shown an unusual node or mass. Your consultant would like to check this further.
- You may have an infection in your lung. This could be a bacterial infection (such as tuberculosis), viral or fungal.
- To determine and diagnose any lung disease.

Do I need to stop my medication in advance?

You need to tell the nurse if you are taking Aspirin, Warfarin, Plavix or any other blood thinners as you will need to stop these in advance of the procedure.

Aspirin: You need to stop aspirin 5 days before procedure.

Plavix: You need to stop plavix 10 days before procedure.

Warfarin: The Lung Co-ordinator will discuss this with you as you will have to have your INR within a normal range prior to the biopsy.

Other blood thinners: We will advise you in advance when to stop these.

You can take your normal medications (exception aspirin, warfarin, plavix) with a sip of water.

Who will perform my biopsy?
The biopsy will be taken by a consultant radiologist who is a doctor specialising in using X-ray and scanning equipment and in taking lung biopsies.

Do I need to get my bloods checked?

A blood test will be undertaken prior to coming for the procedure. You will be notified of the date and time by the Nurse.

Do I need to fast before this test?

You will need to fast from 12 midnight prior to the procedure. Do not take any food or drink. Please let us know in advance if you are a diabetic.

Where do I go to have this test?

You will be admitted to the Day Surgery Centre.

Where is the Day Surgery Centre?

Follow the signs for Route 5 in the Main Concourse. The Day Surgery Centre is located on the first floor.

You will be required to attend at 8am on the morning of your biopsy.

What to bring to the Hospital

Please bring a dressing gown and slippers. Do not bring valuables. Bring your prescription / tablets with you.

Consent

You will be asked to sign a consent form. This is to ensure that you are fully informed of the purpose, complications / risks and benefits of the procedure. The doctor will discuss the consent process with you directly.

What happens during my biopsy?

You will be asked to lie on the CT scanner. This allows the radiologist to pinpoint the exact location that needs a biopsy. Your skin will then be numbed with an anaesthetic at the place where the biopsy needle will be inserted. The radiologist will ask you to hold your breath while a thin needle is passed through the skin into your lung. A sample of cells is taken and sent to the laboratory.

Will I be asleep for this procedure?

No you will be awake for this procedure as your co-operation is needed during it.