

**Patient Information**  
**CT Guided Lung Biopsy**



**Date & Time of Biopsy:** .....

**Admission location:** .....

**Nil by mouth instructions:** .....

**Why have I been advised to have this investigation?**

Your consultant has requested that you have a needle biopsy to help identify the cause of the shadow on your chest x-ray. The purpose of this procedure is to obtain a small sample of lung tissue for analysis in the pathology laboratory. This type of biopsy is usually successful in determining whether the shadow on the chest x-ray is due to a lung cancer. However, a negative biopsy result will not necessarily exclude this possibility.

**Where will this be done?**

You will be admitted to the Royal Gwent Hospital on the day of the test. The procedure will be performed in the CT department by a Radiologist.

**What does this involve?**

The procedure involves cleaning the skin, injecting a small amount of local anaesthetic and then introducing a small biopsy needle into the required part of the lung. The needle may have to be introduced more than once.

Once a satisfactory sample has been obtained, you will return to the ward / day surgery unit to be monitored for a minimum of 4 hours.

### **Are there any complications?**

This is usually a straightforward procedure, but complications can occur.

1. A small number of patients develop a collapse of the lung caused by a leakage of air from the lung into the chest (a pneumothorax). This will normally be detected on the chest x-ray prior to your discharge from hospital. In most cases no treatment is required, although you may be advised to remain in hospital overnight for further observation. Very occasionally if the pneumothorax is large or you have symptoms, you may require treatment. This may involve inserting a small drainage tube into the chest and a short stay in hospital.
2. Occasionally patients may cough up blood after the procedure. This normally resolves without treatment and will not necessarily delay your discharge from hospital. Severe bleeding is a very rare event.

### **What can I do when I get home?**

You should rest for the next 24 hours. Heavy straining and lifting should be avoided for 48 hours.

If there is any discomfort from the biopsy site, a mild painkiller like Paracetamol may be taken. You can remove the small plaster 24 hours after the biopsy was performed.

If you cough up more than a few teaspoons of blood then you should attend the Royal Gwent Hospital Accident and Emergency Department.

If you become more breathless than normal, or experience severe chest pain within 24-48 hours of returning home then you must go to the Royal Gwent Hospital Accident and Emergency Department.

You will be contacted within 2 weeks to return to your Doctor for results.

### **Contact Numbers:-**

Clinical Nurse Specialists

Helen Howison, Samantha Williams & Rebecca Weston-Thomas

Tel. No: - 01633 – 656149 or 01633 238449

**Patient CRN:**

**CT Guided Biopsy check list to be completed in clinic or in patient ward. To be completed by staff & retained or filed in notes.**

Patient consent provided?                    Y [ ]            N [ ]

Nil by Mouth time discussed?            Y [ ]            N [ ]

Patient taking anti coagulation?        Y [ ]            N [ ]

Which medication? \_\_\_\_\_

- If yes detail instructions to stop / restart

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Transport required?                        Y [ ]            N [ ]

- If yes who will book? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Overnight admission required?        Y [ ]            N [ ]

- If yes admission arranged? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**“This document is available in Welsh /  
Mae’r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg”.**