

Urology_{West}

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INFORMATION LEAFLET:

TRANSRECTAL ULTRASOUND SCAN OF THE PROSTATE GLAND (TRUS) & BIOPSY

Why do I need it?

You need to have a biopsy done to help make a correct diagnosis so that we can rule out or confirm possible diagnosis of prostate carcinoma.

How is it done?

The test is done with ultrasound guidance. This involves putting a small probe into your back passage. This probe enables the doctor to see your prostate on a screen. The doctor uses a special needle that is attached to the probe to take a few very small samples of tissue. The tissue taken is then sent for examination under the microscope. The examination normally takes approx 15-25 minutes.

Is the examination painful?

During the examination you may feel some discomfort but this should be no worse than having an ordinary prostate examination. During the procedure you will be asked to lie on your side with your knees drawn up towards your chest. You should breathe slowly and deeply and this will help relax your muscles and ease any discomfort. When the biopsy is taken you will be aware of pressure but very few patients experience pain because before the doctor proceeds to the biopsy, he will perform infiltration of local anaesthetic in four sites around the gland, in order to make the procedure painless. The needle used for the anaesthetic is so fine that it bends like a hair. During the infiltration of anaesthetic, you might feel a slight burning sensation, or nothing. The nurse will be there with you all the time.

How do I prepare?

There is no special preparation for this test. You are advised to eat normally and take your medication as usual. Please do not take any Aspirin tablets for 7-10 days before your appointment.

Are there any risks?

There is a very small risk that you may develop an infection following this procedure. To avoid the possibility of this you will be given two antibiotics before and after the procedure.

There is also a risk of bleeding following the biopsy. This may occur in the urine (for up to one week), in the ejaculatory fluid (up to one month) or from the back passage (up to two weeks).

Should you experience heavy bleeding with clots after the procedure, you should contact the Urology Registrar on Call at University College Hospital, Galway

When will I receive the results?

The tests take several weeks to process. As soon as we get the results we will contact you to schedule an appointment at the clinic when we can discuss the results.