

Ultrasound: After Your Guided Core Biopsy

Self-care guidelines

This handout is for UW Medicine patients who have had an ultrasound-guided core biopsy.

What to Expect

- Your procedure site may be sore or tender as the local anesthesia wears off.
- Your skin may be stained at the biopsy site. This is from the disinfectant. It will wash off.

Activity

Relax and do only light activities for the rest of the day.

For 24 Hours

- Do **not** shower or get the biopsy site wet.
- Do **not** lift, pull, or push anything that weighs more than 10 pounds (a gallon of milk weighs almost 9 pounds).

Self-care

- Remove the bandage about 24 hours after your biopsy.
- After you remove the bandage, you may shower or take a bath. **Do not scrub the site.** Wash the site gently and pat it dry.
- Watch for signs of infection:
 - Redness, swelling, warmth, or pus at the procedure site
 - Fever higher than 100.4°F (38°C)

If You Have Questions or Concerns

During clinic hours, call one of the numbers listed on page 2 if you have:

- Mild fever, pain, redness, swelling, or dizziness
- Any other non-urgent questions or concerns



After your procedure, relax for the rest of the day.

Who interprets the results and how do I get them?

A radiologist who specializes in ultrasound will review the images and send the report to the provider who referred you for the exam. The radiologist may talk with you about early findings when your exam is over.

Your own provider will review the results and talk with you about them. You and your provider will then decide the next step, such as treatment for a problem, as needed.

You may also read your results on your MyChart page. If you need copies of your images on disc, call 206.598.6206.

Urgent Care

Call 911 and go to the nearest emergency room right away if you have any of these symptoms:

- Severe bleeding that will not stop, even after you apply pressure to the procedure site
- Chest pain
- Trouble breathing
- Slurred speech
- Balance problems, dizziness, or trouble using your arms or legs

Who to Call

University of Washington Medical Center and Northwest Hospital

Weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., call the Interventional Radiology Department:

- Montlake: 206.598.6209, option 2
- Northwest: 206.598.6209, option 3

Harborview Medical Center

Weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., call the Interventional Radiology Department at 206.744.2857.

Questions?

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns.

UWMC – Montlake:
206.598.6209, option 2

UWMC – Northwest:
206.598.6209, option 3

Harborview Medical Center:
206.744.2857

After hours and on weekends and holidays:

Call 206.598.6190 and ask to page the Interventional Radiology resident on call.