

# Trans rectal ultrasound biopsy

## Patient Information

**This patient information sheet should answer any questions you have about your procedure. If you still have questions after reading this, you can visit the Diagnostics section of our website [www.theholly.com](http://www.theholly.com), telephone the Diagnostic Centre on 020 8936 1202 or email [diagnostics@theholly.com](mailto:diagnostics@theholly.com)**

### **What is a trans-rectal ultrasound biopsy?**

A trans-rectal ultrasound guided biopsy involves using thin needles to take around 10 to 12 small samples of tissue from the prostate. Your doctor can tell you how many samples they'll take. The biopsy is done through the back passage. An ultrasound scan will be done at the same time to help guide the biopsy needles and measure the size of the prostate gland.

Before the biopsy you must inform the Diagnostic Centre if you are taking any medicines, particularly Warfarin, and if you are diabetic.

The trans-rectal ultrasound biopsy will be carried out by a Consultant Radiologist (a doctor who specialises in interpreting medical images), assisted by a member of our nursing

staff. Sometimes a Consultant Urologist may also carry out the procedure.

### **What happens during the procedure?**

You'll lie on your side on an examination table, with your knees brought up towards your chest. The Consultant will put an ultrasound probe into your back passage (rectum), using a gel to make it more comfortable. The ultrasound probe scans the prostate and an image appears on a screen. A needle is then inserted through the wall of the back passage into the prostate gland – using the ultrasound image as a guide.

You will have a local anaesthetic injection into your back passage to numb the area and reduce any discomfort. Some people find the

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procedure a bit painful, while others have only slight discomfort.

The biopsy will take 10-15 minutes. However, you might have to wait for a little while, or until you have passed urine before going home. This is to make sure you're able to urinate.

It's likely you'll be in the Diagnostic Centre for around an hour, however this can vary.

### **Afterwards**

The samples from the biopsy are sent to the Pathology Department for analysis and the results will be issued to your referring Consultant. Please ensure you book an appointment with your referring Consultant to discuss your results.

### **Important information for patient paying for their own treatment**

We respectfully request that your account is settled either by insurance authorisation or payment at the time of your appointment. A fee may be charged for non-attendance or if less than 24 hours' notice is given to cancel an appointment.

### **Further information**

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further queries. You can telephone the Diagnostic Centre on 020 8936 1202 or email [diagnostics@theholly.com](mailto:diagnostics@theholly.com). Alternatively you can visit the Diagnostics section of our website [www.theholly.com](http://www.theholly.com)

If you would like a copy of this information in large print or an alternative language, please call 020 8936 1214.

Please note we are unable to provide child care facilities during your examination and in most cases children will be unable to accompany you into the examination rooms.

**Call: 020 8505 3311 (Main Switchboard)**  
**Call: 020 8936 1202 (Diagnostics Centre)**  
**Email: [diagnostics@theholly.com](mailto:diagnostics@theholly.com)**  
**Visit: [theholly.com](http://theholly.com)**

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