

PROSTATE NEEDLE BIOPSY

A biopsy is required to diagnose any abnormality of your prostate. The risks of the procedure are quite low.

Prior to the biopsy it is important to;

- Commence taking the antibiotics prescribed.
- Empty your bowel, it may be necessary to have a small enema, these are available from your local chemist.

THE PROCEDURE

If done in the rooms you will be given a local anaesthetic gel to reduce discomfort prior to the procedure. If done in hospital you will be given sedation. Following this, the doctor gently inserts an ultrasound probe into the rectum or back passage. The probe uses sound waves to produce an image of the prostate, which is displayed on a television monitor. The doctor performing the examination uses this image to estimate the size and position of the prostate. The doctor uses the needle to take around 8 to 14 small samples of tissue from your prostate.

After the biopsy you may notice;

BLEEDING

- Blood in your urine
- Blood from your bowel after passing a motion
- Blood in your semen ejaculation, this may go from bright blood to a rusty colour and take up to a few months to stop

These symptoms are common and do not require any specific treatment.

If bleeding is constant, heavy or painful you should seek medical advice

INFECTION

A small percentage of patients (1 in 100) will develop an infection after a prostate biopsy.

Antibiotics reduce the risks of but will NOT prevent all infections. It is important to take all of the antibiotics prescribed.

Symptoms of Infection

- Fevers and Shivers
- Sweating
- Aches and pains
- Feeling particularly unwell

If you experience any of these symptoms, contact the rooms in office hours or go to your nearest Hospital Emergency Department.

ALL PATIENTS WHO HAVE INFECTION AFTER A PROSTATE BIOPSY NEED ADMISSION TO HOSPITAL FOR INTRAVENOUS ANTIBIOTICS

If you are having the procedure in the rooms there is a gap fee of \$80 which is payable on the day of your procedure. You will then receive a cheque from Medicare for the balance which needs to be forwarded to our office at 84 Donald Street, Hamilton.

If the procedure is being performed in the private hospital there will be no out of pocket costs.

If you take any blood thinning medication such as Plavix or Warfarin please contact our rooms to check if this needs to be stopped prior to your procedure.