

Where quality matters

Aintree Head and Neck Unit
Lower Lane
Liverpool L9 7AL
Tel:0151-529-5195/5239

Oral (mouth) Biopsy

Information for patients

The aim of this leaflet is to improve your understanding of any forthcoming treatment and contains answers to many of the commonly asked questions. If you have any other questions that the leaflet does not answer or would like further explanation please ask a member of staff.

What is a biopsy?

A biopsy is a procedure where a small piece of tissue is removed from an area so that it can be looked at closely under a microscope. The biopsy may aim to remove an area completely (an excision biopsy). This is usually only appropriate for small lumps or swellings. Occasionally only a small piece of an abnormal area is removed to confirm a diagnosis (an incisional biopsy).

How is it done?

In most cases biopsies are carried out under local anaesthesia (an injection into the area to numb it). The injection takes a couple of minutes to work and means that the biopsy will be painless. The biopsy usually leaves a small hole that often requires stitching. In the majority of cases the stitches used are dissolvable and take around two weeks to disappear. The whole process usually takes around 15 minutes from start to finish.

Is there much soreness or swelling afterwards?

After a few hours, the local anaesthetic will wear off and there should be relatively little in the way of pain or swelling.

Occasionally it is necessary to take simple painkillers (e.g. Paracetamol, Ibuprofen) and usually discomfort only lasts a few days.

Will there be much bleeding?

Although there may be a little bleeding at the time of biopsy, this usually stops very quickly and is unlikely to be a problem if the wound is stitched.

Should the biopsy site bleed again when you get home this can usually be stopped by applying pressure over the area for at least 10 minutes with a rolled up handkerchief or swab. If the bleeding does not stop please contact the department for advice on:

MFU Clinic 5, Tel: 0151 529 0353
(Mon-Fri 09.00-5.00)

Or

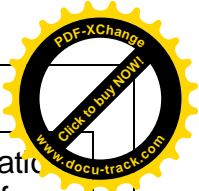
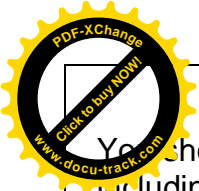
Ward 29 Tel: 0151 529 5195
Ward 28 Tel: 0151 529 5239
(evenings & weekends)

When can I return to work?

This largely depends on your job and how you feel after the procedure. Most people are able to return to work the following day.

How can I help my recovery?

Be careful not to bite numb areas of your mouth. On the day of surgery you should avoid rinsing your mouth out vigorously as this may cause bleeding.



You should clean your teeth normally, including those teeth next to the site of the biopsy. If you find that food catches around the stitches then the area can be gently rinsed with a mouthwash or warm salt water (dissolve a teaspoon of kitchen salt in a cup of warm water) commencing on the day **after** surgery.

Will I need another appointment?

Another appointment will be arranged for you to see a Maxillofacial Surgeon to have the results of your biopsy discussed with you.

You can also get further information from:

- www.aboutmyhealth.org – for support and information you can trust
- National Institute for Clinical Excellence at www.nice.org.uk
- British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons at www.baoms.org.uk
- British Dental Association 0 207 935 0875 and at www.bda-dentistry.org.uk

Aintree University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is not responsible for the content of any material referenced in this leaflet that has not been produced and approved by the Trust.



If you require a special edition of this leaflet

This leaflet is available in large print, Braille, on audio tape or disk and in other languages on request. Please contact Customer Services on:

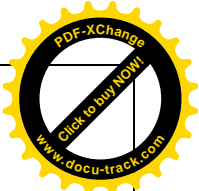
ان كنت تريد نسخة خاصة من هذا الكتيب يمكنك الحصول على هذا الكتيب بطباعة اكبر أو بطريقة برايل للمكفوفين أو على شريط أو مطبوع على سيدي وللحصول عليك الاتصال بنا على الرقم التالي:

如果需要特殊編輯這個專單 根據需要 這個專單可以加大列印 添加盲文 其他語言 並且可以做成磁帶錄音或者光碟。如果有什麼需要 請聯繫 客服

Si vous avez besoin d'une brochure adaptée pour malvoyants

Vous pouvez obtenir, sur demande, ce prospectus imprimé en grands caractères, en Braille, en livre audio (cassette ou disque compact) ou dans une autre langue. Veuillez contacter le service clientèle au:

यदि आप इस पुस्तिका की एक विशेष संस्करण की आवश्यकता होती है तो इस पुस्तिका बड़े प्रिंट, ब्रेल (उत्कीर्ण लेखा)में, ऑडियो टेप या डिस्क और अन्य भाषाओं में अनुरोध पर उपलब्ध है। कृपया कस्टमर सर्विसिस (ग्राहक सेवा)से उपर दिए गए नंबर पर संपर्क करे:



Se necesita una edición especial de este folleto

Este folleto está disponible en letra grande, en Braille, en cintas de audio o en disco y en otras lenguas a petición. Por favor, contacte con el Servicio de Atención al cliente en:

Haddii aad u baahantahay cadad khaas ah oo ah warqadan

Warqadan waxaad ku heli kartaa haddii aad codsato iyadoo ku qoran far balaadhan, Braille (waa farta ay akhriyaan dadka indhaha la'), iyadoo hadal cajalad ama disk ku duuban ama ku turjban luqad kale. Fadlan ka la soo xidhiidh Adeega Macaamiisha:

اگر آپ کو اس معلوماتی پرچے کی خصوصی اشاعت درکار ہے

یہ معلوماتی پرچہ بڑی لکھائی، بریل (اندھوں کا رسم الخط) سماعت کرنے والی ٹیپ یا ڈسک یا پھر اور زبانوں میں درخواست پر دستیاب ہے۔ برائے مہربانی کسٹمر سروس سے دینے کے نمبر پر رابطہ کریں:

Os oes arnoch angen rhifyn arbennig o'r daflen hon

Mae'r daflen hon ar gael mewn print bras, Braille, ar dâp sain neu ddisg ac mewn ieithoedd eraill ar eich cais. Cysylltwch â Gwasanaethau i Gwsmeriaid ar:

W przypadku, gdy potrzebujesz specjalnego wydania tej broszury

Broszura ta jest dostępna w dużej trzcionce, Braille'u, na kasecie do odsłuchu lub na dysku jak również w innych językach na życzenie. Prosimy o kontakt z Serwisem dla klientów pod numerem:



Telephone
0151
529 3287



Textphone
0151
529 2523



Fax
0151
529 2019

[for the hearing impaired]