

Bronchoscopy & Mediastinoscopy

Bronchoscopy is a **procedure** that passes a soft flexible camera (bronchoscope) through your mouth into your throat, and down into your throat and trachea. It is used to examine your airways.

Mediastinoscopy is a **procedure** to biopsy lymph nodes in the middle of your chest (between your lungs). A small incision is made in front of your neck above your the breast bone. A scope is inserted and the lymph nodes examined. Biopsies of the lymph nodes are taken and sent for testing.

A sample of the lymph nodes is needed to either make a diagnosis or to help determine if a tumor has spread to the lymph nodes.

The procedure is a **day surgery** that takes about one hour. You will come in and go home on the same day and will need a person to bring you in and take you home after.

Risks

The surgical risks include bleeding, infection, and hoarseness of voice. The anesthetic risks include myocardial infarction (heart attack) and in extremely rare cases, death.

Before Your Procedure

- **DO NOT EAT OR DRINK ANYTHING**, including water, after midnight the night before surgery unless instructed otherwise by your surgeon.

Dressing

- A dressing is placed over the incision. Keep the wound and dressing dry for 2 days.
- After 2 days, remove the bandage and wash the wound with soap and water.
- A small suture may be visible at one end of the incision. It is a dissolving suture and will fall away in about 10 days.

Pain

- Most patients find the pain to be minimal and can be controlled with Tylenol®.
- You will be given a prescription (usually Tylenol® 3) to be taken only if needed.

Activity

- There are no specific limitations.

Call your surgeon's office if:

- You have any excess:
 - Bleeding
 - Swelling
 - Discharge (pus)
- You have a temperature of 38.5° C or 101.50° F.
- Your pain is not relieved by medication.