



## Procedure Information

### Bone Marrow Aspiration and / or Biopsy

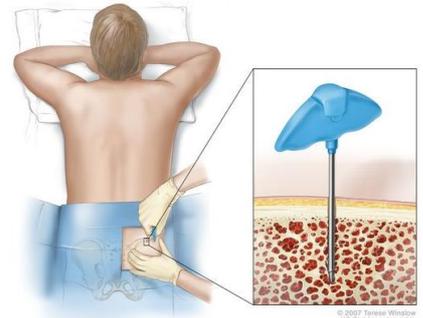
#### Introduction

Bone marrow is the soft tissue inside bones that makes blood cells.

Bone marrow aspiration is the removal of a small amount of marrow in liquid form. Bone marrow biopsy is the removal of a small piece of bone with marrow tissue. The marrow taken out will be sent to laboratory for examination.

#### Outcomes

Depending on the different indications, a bone marrow test is the best way of investigating different types of blood disorders and to help the doctors to make a diagnosis.



Source:

<https://www.cancer.gov/publications/dictionaries/cancer-terms/def/bone-marrow-aspiration>

#### Procedures

##### Bone Marrow Aspiration

1. The procedure is performed under local anaesthesia.
2. A marrow needle is inserted into the centre of the bone. (Pelvic bone is usually used)
3. A small amount of liquid marrow is withdrawn.
4. The marrow needle is removed and a dressing is applied to the puncture site.

##### Bone Marrow Biopsy

1. The procedure is performed under local anaesthesia.
2. A marrow needle is inserted into the bone.
3. A small piece of bone with attached bone marrow is taken.
4. The marrow needle is removed and a dressing is applied to the puncture site.

#### Possible Risks and Complications

1. Bleeding from puncture site (usually stop within a short period)
2. Infection (rare)
3. Damage to the nerve (very rare)

\*\* The risks listed above are in general terms and the possibility of complications is not exhaustive. Please understand that even though all procedures are carried out with utmost professionalism and care, this does not rule out the possibility of complications arising.

## **Pre-procedure Preparations**

1. The procedures and possible complications will be explained by the doctor and a consent form must be signed prior to the procedure.
2. Please inform the doctor and nurse all your past medical history, previous surgical operations, current medication and any complication with drug or anaesthesia. Please inform doctor if you are taking medications that affect blood coagulation, such as Aspirin, Warfarin, Xarelto or Pradaxa and Chinese medicine.
3. Please inform the doctor or nurse if you are or might be pregnant.
4. Blood test may be performed.
5. Please empty your bladder before the procedure.

## **Post-procedure Instructions**

1. The dressing can be removed on the same day or following day.
2. You can be discharged on the same day after the procedure.

## **Advice on Discharge**

1. You may experience a dull ache at the puncture site for several days. Prescribed pain medication may be taken as needed.
2. Avoid overexertion such as heavy activity or exercise for 48 hours.
3. Immediately consult your doctor or return to hospital for professional attention in the event of severe pain, swelling, bleeding and purulent drainage from the puncture site, shivering, high fever over 38°C or 100.4°F, or any other unusual symptoms.
4. Any follow-up consultations should be attended as scheduled.

Should there be any enquiries or concerns, please consult the attending doctor.

Under the professional care of the doctor, you will gradually recover. We wish you all the best during your treatment and recovery.

If you have any questions after reading the entire leaflet, please write them down in the spaces provided in order for the doctor to further follow-up.

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Compiled by Union Hospital Operating Theatre (OT) Governance Committee

The above information is for reference only, please enquire your physician for details  
Our Hospital reserves the RIGHT to amend any information in this leaflet without prior notification