



Your X-Ray Guided Aspiration

Radiology Department

Great Western Hospital

If you need to cancel or you have queries or concerns please contact the department on

01793 60 50 59

Opening Hours

Monday - Friday 9.00am – 4.30pm



Your X-Ray Guided Aspiration

What is an X-ray Guided Aspiration?

An aspiration is when a fluid collection is removed under x-ray guidance.

Are there any risks involved?

Complications are rare. However, infection or bleeding could be experienced in exceptional circumstances. Our strict guidelines in performing this procedure ensure that this risk is reduced to a minimum.

During your procedure you will receive a dose of ionising radiation to help us form images of your body and this will provide your doctor with detailed information. The radiation dose is always kept as low as possible. The actual dose you receive will vary depending on the type of procedure you are having, but your doctor has considered this and feels that this is the best procedure for you to have to help diagnose or treat your condition.

We are all at risk of developing cancer in our lifetime and the added risk from undergoing your procedure is small and is outweighed because of the benefits it provides and every procedure that you have in Radiology has been assessed to ensure that the benefit outweighs the risk. For more information see the displays within the department or ask a member of staff.



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Do I have to have this scan?

The examination you are having involves extremely low amounts of radiation. This is little more than the normal background radiation that you experience in everyday life.

Is there anything I have to do before I come?

If you take Warfarin tablets you should notify us as soon as you receive this letter.

- Do not eat or drink anything for hours before your appointment time.

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What does it involve?

- The procedure is very quick and easy – it will take approximately 30 minutes.
- You will have an injection of local anaesthetic to freeze the skin, and then a very fine needle is inserted so that the fluid collection can be removed.



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After

- Be prepared to stay in our recovery bay for 30 minutes afterwards so that we can make sure you are well enough to go home.
- Be aware that on very rare occasions it may be necessary for you to stay in hospital overnight.
- **You should not drive yourself home.**
- A friend or relative should accompany you to the hospital and be able to stay with you overnight if you are returning home.
- If a doctor from the hospital sent you, you will receive a letter or follow-up appointment to discuss the results.

From 1st January 2019 smoking will not be permitted on any NHS site in England. Smoking will not be permitted within any of our buildings or anywhere outside on our sites. Smoking facilities will not be provided. Please be considerate of others when vaping in hospital grounds

This information sheet is available to order in other languages and formats. If you would like a copy, please contact us on 01793 604031 or email gwh.pals@nhs.net

Document Control

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