



Ultrasound guided fine needle aspiration of your thyroid gland

Scanning Department Radiology

Great Western Hospital

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

01793 60 50 49

Opening Hours

**Monday - Friday
9.00am - 4.30pm**



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What is an Ultrasound scan?

For this scan we use high frequency sound waves. Humans are unable to hear them, and the scanning machine uses them to produce scan images.

What does Fine Needle Aspiration (FNA) involve?

- The procedure is very quick and easy – it will take about 15 minutes.
- The ultrasound scanner helps the doctor locate the exact place where a very fine needle needs to be inserted.
- A sample of tissue is taken.
- Because the needle is so fine, this may have to be repeated a few times until the correct amount of tissue is obtained.

What do I have to do before I come?

- There is no preparation for this scan.
- You may eat and drink normally.



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Do I have to have this scan?

The doctor has requested this scan for you. It is the easiest way to gain the information needed to diagnose your problem.

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.

What happens after the Scan?

- You may be allowed to go home straight away.
- Sometimes the doctor may suggest that you sit in our waiting area for half an hour before you are told you can leave.
- It is advisable to have a friend or relative to accompany you and travel home with you.



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- You should be able to drive yourself home.
- You may carry on eating and drinking normally after this procedure.

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

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