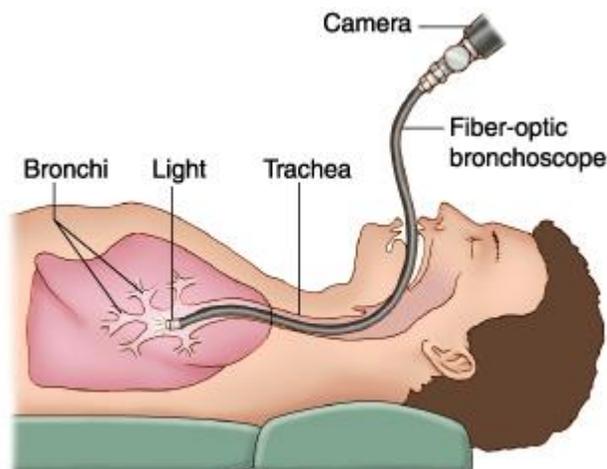


# Bronchoscopy

## Patient Information Leaflet

### What is a Bronchoscopy?

This is a procedure in which a flexible endoscope (camera) called a bronchoscope is passed through the mouth or nose into the trachea, this allows inspection of the trachea (windpipe) and bronchi (airways). It gives a clear view of the lining of the bronchi allowing the Endoscopist to make a diagnosis.



### Why is a Bronchoscopy done?

This test is performed to investigate the airways. Other specialised techniques may be performed during the procedure including needle aspiration (using a special needle to obtain samples with suction). Biopsies can also be taken as well as washing and brushing the airways or lungs.

The benefits of the procedure is that it allows inspection of the airways and you can take samples for diagnosis of infection or other lung conditions.

### Pre procedure check list

- Please bring your medication list with you.
- Stop eating 6 hours before your appointment.
- **Clear** fluids can be taken until **two hours** before your procedure.
- Bring a book/magazine to read.
- If you choose to have **sedation** please arrange for **someone to drive you home and stay with you overnight**.
- Please bring your insulin, dextrose tablets, diabetes tablets, inhalers and heart medication with you to take after your procedure, as necessary.
- If you need an interpreter please telephone Endoscopy Bookings to arrange
- If you are taking any Anti-Coagulation Therapy (medicine to thin your blood) please telephone the Nursing Team.
- All diabetic medication to be omitted when not eating.

### YOU NEED TO FAST

But you can have clear free fluids until two hours before your procedure



## The procedure

You will either sit or lie flat during the procedure. The bronchoscope is passed either through the nose or mouth (a plastic mouthguard may be required) and anaesthetic applied to the voice box and airways before proceeding with the examination.

You must try to keep still and not talk through the procedure.

Bronchoscopy usually lasts 20-30 minutes.

## After the procedure

You will be taken from the treatment room to the recovery area where you will rest on the trolley. You will be monitored until most effects of any medication given have worn off. After 1-2 hours you will be taken to the discharge area.

You may use your mobile in the discharge area or the nurse can contact your lift when you are ready. We will also offer you a hot or cold drink.

If you require an outpatient appointment this will be sent by post.

## Possible complications

Bronchoscopy is considered a safe procedure but there are potential complications including:

- Hoarse voice
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Mild fever
- Nosebleed
- Bleeding in the airways
- Low oxygen levels
- Collapsed lung (with biopsies)

**Please be aware on the day of your bronchoscopy you may be in the unit for up to four hours.**

## Sedation / local anaesthetic?

We recommend you have local anaesthetic throat spray and sedation during the procedure to help with any discomfort.

Local anaesthetic: makes your mouth and throat feel numb, it reduces the gag reflex, with minimal side effects, and the effect wears off at around 30 minutes.

Sedation: this relaxes you, but does not put you to sleep. It stays in your system for up to 24 hours.

**If you have sedation you must have someone to drive you home and stay with you for 24 hours.**

## Other Information

The unit is located in Core A on level 1 and is sign posted "Endoscopy" Please make your way to the Day Treatment Unit (DTU) waiting room and check in at the reception desk.

**If you may be pregnant, please contact the unit as soon as possible.**

If you have any question you may contact the Endoscopy Unit between 8am – 6pm weekdays:

### **Nursing Enquiries**

Tel: 01733 673945

Tel: 01733 673944

### **Booking Enquiries**

Tel: 01733 677433

Tel: 01733 673981

Alternatively you can find more information on our website address:

[www.nwangliaft.nhs.uk](http://www.nwangliaft.nhs.uk)

