



Northeast Georgia Medical Center

Thyroid FNA/Biopsy

How should I prepare for this procedure?

- You may eat and drink as normal prior to this procedure.
- For Gainesville procedures, you will need to arrive an hour and a half before your scheduled appointment time. For Braselton procedures, you will need to arrive an hour to an hour and a half before your scheduled appointment time. For Barrow procedures, you will need to arrive an hour before your scheduled appointment time.
- A nurse from the Interventional Radiology department will reach out to you via phone the day before your procedure.
- For your safety, you must have a caregiver or responsible adult with you to drive you home after your procedure. Due to the effects of anesthesia, sedation, or other post-procedural effects, you will not be able to drive yourself. Additionally, the responsible adult accompanying you will assume responsibility for you upon discharge. This person should be someone who can provide support and care as needed while you recover.
- Certain blood thinners need to be held for this procedure. You will need to check with your primary care provider that it is acceptable for your blood thinners to be held for this procedure.

What should I expect when I arrive?

- For Gainesville, you will go to the registration department in the Blue tower of the hospital. When you arrive in the main lobby of the Blue tower, go down the hallway on your left. The registration department is located on the right. Labs will be drawn here if necessary.
- For Braselton, you will go in through the main entrance and check in at the desk. You will be directed to registration from there. Labs will be drawn here if necessary.
- For Barrow, you will go to the registration desk located inside the main entrance of the hospital.
- After registration, you will go to the radiology waiting room. A staff member will show you back to the Interventional Radiology department. Your driver can accompany you back to the prep area.
- A provider and nurse will explain the procedure, go over discharge instructions, and decide what medications can be safely given. An IV for medication administration will be placed if necessary.
- When it is time to go to ultrasound for your procedure, your driver will be shown to the waiting room.

What medications will be offered during this procedure?

- Anxiolysis is commonly offered for this procedure. Medications offered will be dependent on the provider's discretion on the day of your procedure. Anxiolysis is intended to relax you. However, you will be awake for this procedure.
- The medication most commonly used for anxiolysis is Versed.

What should I expect during my procedure?



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- When it is time for your procedure, your nurse will bring you to the ultrasound room.
- You will be positioned in a way that makes it safe for the health care provider to access the area where the needle will be inserted.
- The Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant will be paged to the procedure room when your tech and nurse are ready.
- The Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant will numb the area with local anesthetic.
- A needle will be guided through your skin and into the area to be biopsied.
- Once enough cells or tissue has been collected, the biopsy sample will be sent to a laboratory for testing.
- A bandage (*dressing*) may be put over the area where the needle was inserted. You may be asked to apply pressure to the dressing for several minutes to help stop the bleeding.

What should I expect after my procedure?

- Minor discomfort may be present that should be controllable by over-the-counter medications (Tylenol, Ibuprofen, etc.) or whatever you normally take for pain at home. No pain medication prescriptions will be provided on discharge. Any significant pain post-procedure would warrant a trip to the ER or a call to the ordering physician.
- There is no recovery time for this procedure. You will be discharged home after your procedure is complete.
- An ice pack will be provided prior to discharge home to help with any discomfort, bruising, and swelling.