



CHRISTIE CLINIC

Medicine for Your Life

Patient Instructions

Department of Radiology

(217) 366-1285

ULTRASOUND GUIDED THYROID FINE NEEDLE ASPIRATION

Patient Name _____

Date of Appointment _____ **Time of Appointment** _____

You are scheduled for an ultrasound guided thyroid fine needle aspiration. Please report to the Patient Check-In Desk located on the first floor of Christie Clinic on University Avenue in downtown Champaign. After checking in, please proceed to the Procedure Center located on the third floor. Please plan to arrive 30 minutes prior to your appointment time.

If you are unable to keep your appointment, please cancel at least 24 hours before your scheduled appointment time by calling (217) 366-1285.

Why is this procedure done?

The most common method for evaluation of a suspicious thyroid nodule is a technique known as fine needle aspiration, or FNA.

How do I prepare for the procedure?

- Before the procedure, you will be asked to refrain from taking a blood-thinning medication called Coumadin for three (3) full days prior to your procedure
- Other blood-thinning medications such as aspirin, Ticlid, Nsaid, Plavix, Pletal or Aggrenox should not be taken for seven (7) days prior to the procedure.
- You may need to have an adult drive you home afterwards.

What will happen during the procedure?

You will be asked to sign a consent form after having spoken with the radiologist performing the procedure. During the procedure, the sonographer will move a transducer over your neck. With the ultrasound pictures as a guide, the radiologist will select the best site to insert a needle and place a small mark on your neck. This site is cleaned and a local anesthetic (numbing medication) is injected. You may feel a slight burning as the anesthetic is applied. A syringe is attached to the end of a needle and suction is applied as the needle enters the anesthetized area. Once the needle is verified in the location of interest, the radiologist will draw out cells through a syringe for further laboratory evaluation.

Once the sample has been collected the needle will be removed and gentle pressure will be applied to the area for a short period of time.

How long will the procedure take?

The procedure takes approximately twenty to thirty (20-30) minutes.

How do I get results of the procedure?

Your physician will contact you by phone or mail as soon as your test results are received and reviewed.

If you have not received your results within two weeks following this procedure, please contact your physician's office.