Fine Needle Aspiration Biopsy

A fine needle aspiration (FNA) biopsy is a procedure done by your doctor to remove a small sample of tissue from an abnormal area of your body. The tissue is then looked at under a microscope by a special doctor (pathologist).

How is my biopsy done?

• Your skin will be cleaned with an antibacterial solution. Your doctor will talk with you if a medicine to numb the area will be used.

• A small, thin needle attached to a syringe will be put through your skin into the abnormal area. Your doctor will use the syringe to collect a small sample of tissue. This may be done multiple times to collect more tissue.

• Your tissue is then sent to the lab to be looked at.

What happens after my biopsy?

• Your biopsy site will be covered with a small bandage.

• The area around your biopsy site may be tender and bruised. This should go away 1 to 2 days after your biopsy.
  ▶ Use an ice pack over your biopsy site to help with your discomfort. Place a cloth between your skin and the ice pack and leave the ice pack on for 15 to 20 minutes.

  ▶ Your doctor will tell you what pain medicine you can take.

• Your results will be available about 1 week after your biopsy. Your doctor will talk with you about your results.
When should I call my doctor?

Call your doctor right away if you have any of the following:

- Chills or fever of 101 degrees Fahrenheit (38.3 degrees Celsius) or higher
- Swelling that does not go away
- Pain that is not relieved by pain medicine
- Continued bleeding from your biopsy site