

EBUS

Endobronchial Ultrasound

What is an EBUS?

It is a routine procedure used to diagnose different types of lung disorders.

Performed by a pulmonologist, EBUS uses a long, flexible tube that goes through your mouth and into your windpipe and lungs. This allows the doctors to see beyond the airway tubes and into the area between the lungs.



Why do I need an EBUS?

EBUS allows disease beyond the inner walls of the airway tubes to be seen directly and samples (biopsies) can be taken. This procedure is used to:

- Investigate enlarged lymph nodes in the chest
- Diagnose conditions such as sarcoidosis or tuberculosis
- Diagnose and stage cancer.

Are there any side effects?

Your throat may be a little sore for a day or so afterwards and you may feel tired for several hours, caused by the sedative. You may also cough up a little blood for a couple of days following the test. This is normal after having a biopsy taken.

What are the risks?

EBUS bronchoscopy is extremely safe, but as with any medical procedure, there is a small risk of complications, which may include bleeding from the biopsy, infection after the procedure, low oxygen levels during or after the procedure and a very small risk of collapse of the lung. All these complications are treatable but may require you to be briefly admitted to the hospital instead of going home the same day as your procedure.

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Let your doctor know before your procedure if:

1. You have any questions
2. You are taking Warfarin or Clopidogrel (Plavix)
3. You have had a heart attack or stroke in the last 6 weeks
4. You have had an infection of the heart valves in the past or had your spleen removed

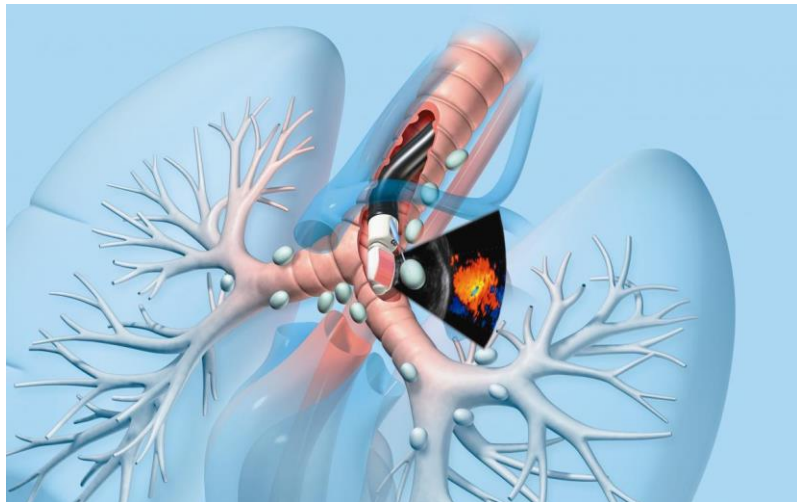
Consult your doctor 2 days after the procedure if:

- You have chest pain
- You have a fever or breathlessness
- You continue to cough up blood

What to Expect

Before the Procedure: Do not eat or drink anything for 6 hours. (you may have water up to 2 hours beforehand)

Procedure: you will receive an IV to administer medications that will keep you comfortable throughout the procedure. Sometimes anesthesia will be used to put you completely asleep. Once you are comfortable or asleep, your doctor will insert the camera through your mouth, past the voice box and into the lungs to begin the EBUS. Using the camera and the ultrasound, your doctor will examine and collect samples from your lung, which are usually taken with a small needle. You will be able to breathe normally. It does not hurt but there is often coughing which is normal. The procedure lasts 30-40 minutes.



After the Procedure: EBUS is an outpatient procedure, and you will generally be allowed to go home after a brief observation period. Do not eat or drink for 1 hour after the procedure. Do not drive, operate machinery, or drink alcohol for 24 hours after the procedure. Arrange to have someone take you home.