

What to Expect: MRI Guided Biopsy

For the biopsy, you will lie on your belly on a cushioned table in the MRI scanner. An MRI compatible needle sleeve will be gently placed 3 to 4 inches into the rectum to guide the biopsy needle into place. MR images will be used to change the orientation of the sleeve to best target the lesion in the prostate. After confirming the correct orientation with MRI, a needle will be placed through the sleeve and the radiologist will obtain 2-3 cores (samples) of prostate tissue from the suspicious area. MRI technology is used to precisely guide the biopsy needle and samples are taken from the target area.

On average, an MRI guided prostate biopsy take 30 to 60 minutes. Biopsy samples are sent to a pathology lab for analysis. As with traditional biopsies, the test results are typically available a few days after the MRI biopsy is performed. The pathology findings provide the final confirmation of prostate cancer and help us identify both the volume of cancer and the level of risk (or aggressiveness) the cancer presents.

[Click here for information on how to make an appointment.](#)

Exam Preparation

10 Days Before Your Exam

Do not take aspirin or any aspirin-like medication for 10 days prior to your scheduled appointment.
[Review this detailed list of what is an aspirin or aspirin-like medication.](#)

The Day Before Your Exam

You will have been prescribed four 500mg tablets of Cipro and four 200mg tablets of Vantin. Have the prescriptions filled at a pharmacy.
The night before your exam, take one tablet of Cipro before going to bed.

The Day of the Exam

The morning of the exam, take one tablet of Cipro.
Take two tablets of Vantin two hours before your procedure.

Upon Arrival

- For your safety, the MRI technologist will ask you several questions.
- You will be asked to remove all jewelry and metals, including removable dentures, and piercings. You will be provided a locker to secure your belongings.
- We will have you remove all of your clothing, change into two gowns, and offer the use of a restroom to empty your bladder.

After Your Exam

Please be sure to take the final doses of the antibiotics prescribed to you:
Take the two remaining tablets of Cipro following the procedure.

Take the two remaining tablets of Vantin ten hours after your procedure.

You may resume normal physical activity 24 hours following the biopsy. Should you observe blood in the urine, rectum, or semen, be advised that this is normal and usually resolves within a few days.

Biopsy results are typically available in a few days. Your ordering healthcare provider will be notified of the results, who will then share them with you at your follow up appointment or by phone.