

What is a EBUS?

Endobronchial Ultrasound (EBUS) is a minimally invasive procedure that uses ultrasound along with bronchoscopy to visualize the lungs and lymph nodes. This is an effective procedure used to diagnose lung cancer, infections, and other diseases causing enlarged lymph nodes in the chest.

How do I prepare for the EBUS?

- Be sure to follow the specific diet instructions given by your provider.
- Arrange for a driver and someone to be with you for the day. You will not be allowed to drive if you receive sedation.
- If you are taking Coumadin, Plavix, or other blood thinners, let your doctor know.
- Dentures and eyeglasses will be removed before the EBUS.
- Be sure to let your doctor know if you are pregnant.
- All jewelry should be left at home.

What are the potential complications?

- Undesired effects from anesthesia.
- Bleeding from the site of a biopsy.
- Pneumothorax (collapsed lung). This happens in less than five percent of patients.
- Complications from unrelated disease.
- If you have any questions, please contact your doctor.

What should I expect before the EBUS?

- Your doctor will explain the risks and benefits of the test to you.
- You will sign a consent form for the procedure.
- A small IV will be put in a vein to give you fluid and anesthesia medications.
- General anesthesia will be used to put you to sleep.
- A tube will be placed in your airway to help you breath during the procedure.

What should I expect during the EBUS?

- You will lay on your back during the procedure.
- Your blood pressure, pulse, and oxygen levels will be monitored during the procedure.
- Your doctor may choose to take biopsies (small pieces of lung tissue or lymph node) during the procedure.

What can I expect after the EBUS?

- After the test, your lungs maybe bothered, and you may cough a lot. This will go away slowly.
- If samples or biopsies are taken, you may cough up blood-tinged spit.
- You will not be allowed to eat or drink anything for two hours after the procedure.
- Your blood pressure, pulse, and oxygen levels will be monitored in the recovery area.
- Your family and friends can be with you after the procedure.
- You might have oxygen on for a short time.
- If you are taking Coumadin, Plavix, or other blood thinners, ask your doctor when to restart those specific medications.
- The nurse will give you written discharge instructions before you leave.

When will I get my results?

- Your doctor will tell you what was found before you go home.
- You will receive a phone call explaining your biopsy results in five to seven days following your procedure.