

What will happen when I am in the ultrasound room?

After arriving and registering you will change into a hospital gown and housecoat. The exam is done in an ultrasound room.

You will be required to lie on an ultrasound stretcher on your left side with your knees bent.

A gel used for freezing the area will be inserted into your rectum.

The Radiologist/urologist will carefully insert an ultrasound probe, the size of a finger into the rectum.

Measurements and pictures of the prostate gland will be taken, followed by approximately 8 biopsies.

The majority of patients tolerate the procedure well.

The biopsies are sent to the QEH Lab with reports going to your doctor.



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Health PEI

A Guide to your Transrectal Ultrasound Biopsy

Patient Information

What is an Ultrasound ?

Ultrasound is like ordinary sound except it has a frequency (or pitch) higher than people can hear.

Ultrasound is sent into the body from a scanning instrument(transducer) placed on the patient's skin.

The sound is reflected off structures inside the body and is analyzed by a computer to make a picture of these structures on a screen.

The pictures can then be recorded and archived as still images or short video clips.

Diagnostic ultrasound is commonly called sonography.

Is Ultrasound safe?

Diagnostic ultrasound has been in use since the 1950's.

There are no confirmed adverse biological effects on patients or instrument operators caused by exposures from diagnostic ultrasound instruments.

Although the possibility exists that such biological effects may be identified in the future, current data indicates that the benefits to patients of the prudent use of diagnostic ultrasound outweigh the risks, if any, that may be present.

What can I expect after the procedure?

There may be some minor discomfort after a biopsy and a small amount of blood may be noted in your urine and stool for up to 48 hours. Some blood in your semen is also common.

There is no cause for concern if the amounts are small.

You will be instructed to drink plenty of fluids, keep your stools soft and abstain from sexual activity for 10 days.

If you have chills, fever, persistent pain, difficulty urinating or steady heavy bleeding then please notify your doctor or go to the Emergency Department.

If you experience discomfort following the exam take Tylenol or whatever pain medication you normally take(NO ASPIRIN).