

Transrectal Prostate Biopsy 經直腸前列腺穿刺活組織檢查

Introduction

Transrectal prostate biopsy is recommended if you are suspected to have prostate cancer. Prostate biopsy is the only diagnostic investigation to confirm carcinoma of prostate. It is an invasive procedure with potential complications. However, a negative biopsy does not completely rule out the possibility of the disease.

Indications of Transrectal Prostate Biopsy

1. Clinical suspicion of carcinoma of prostate
2. Palpable prostate nodule on digital rectal examination
3. Elevated serum level of prostatic specific antigen (PSA)
4. Re-staging carcinoma of prostate

About the Procedure

The procedure usually takes 10 to 15 minutes. An ultrasound sensor is passed into your rectum, and a thin needle is inserted through the rectum under ultrasound guidance to take tissue sample of your prostate. Doctors usually collect multiple samples, which are sent for laboratory testing.

Risks and Complications

1. Life-threatening septicaemia (<1%)
2. Infection of the urinary tract (1-5%)
3. Bleeding from rectum
4. Blood-stained urine (can last up to 1 to 2 weeks)
5. Blood-stained semen (can last up to 6 weeks)
6. Urinary retention

Before the Procedure

Please notify your doctor if you are taking medications that affect your blood coagulation, such as aspirin or warfarin. These medications may have to be stopped before the procedure. Before the procedure, it would be useful to inform your doctor if there are any symptoms of urinary tract infection, such as fever and painful voiding.

After the Procedure

You may find blood in urine, faeces or semen after the procedure. You are advised to drink plenty of fluid over the next few days. If significant bleeding occurs, or if fever develops, medical attention is needed.

Follow up

You will be discharged when considered appropriate. If fever or other serious events develop after discharge, you should seek medical advice at the nearest Accident and Emergency Department.

Remarks

This is general information only and the list of complications is not exhaustive. Other unforeseen complications may occasionally occur. In special patient groups, the actual risk may be different. For further information please contact your doctor.