

Excision Biopsy

Your doctor has requested that you book in for an excisional biopsy. A skin biopsy is a medical procedure that involves removing either a small portion or the whole lesion to diagnose various skin conditions, cancers, and other abnormalities. The type of biopsy will be determined by the doctor on the day and can either be a:

- **Punch biopsy** where a small portion is removed
- A **Shave biopsy** where a small layer is removed
- **Excisional biopsy** where the whole lesion is removed.

The sample will be sent off to be examined under a microscope and may take up to 2 weeks for your doctor to receive the results of the biopsy.

So, what will happen on the day?

On the day the nurse and doctor will confirm any allergies, specifically to betadine, local anaesthetic, adrenaline and dressings.

After cleaning the skin and creating a sterile barrier the doctor will numb the area for biopsy with local anaesthetic and remove either a small portion or the entire lesion. After removal the area will be closed with stitches.

Aftercare at home

You will need to keep the surgical wound dry and covered with a water-proof dressing until the stitches are removed to prevent infection.

Your doctor or nurse will advise you when to come back to have the stitches removed usually within 7 to 10 days.

Signs of infection to watch out for are redness, swelling, warmth at the site, increased pain and yellow coloured ooze. Please contact the medical centre's practice nurse if you have any concerns or questions about your procedure.



Excision Biopsy of Skin Lesion

Patient Information

The **fees** involved for your biopsy will depend on the pathology results.

One part of your account will be on hold until the results come back. The non-Medicare rebateable payable fee (GAP) will be approximately \$50.00-100.00

There is a practice procedural levy of \$120.00 payable on the day to cover the consumables cost.



TRINITY CARE
FAMILY PRACTICE