

Please use this space to write notes/reminders.

Comments, Compliments or Complaints

The Patient Relations/Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Department provides confidential on the spot advice, information and support to patients, relatives, friends and carers.

Contact Us

Tel: 01942 822376 (Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm)

The Patient Relations/PALS Manager
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
Wigan Lane
Wigan WN1 2NN

Ask 3 Questions



Become more involved in decisions about your healthcare. You may be asked to make choices about your treatment. To begin with, try to make sure you get the answers to three key questions:

1. What are my options?
2. What are the pros and cons of each option for me?
3. How do I get support to help me make a decision that is right for me?

How We Use Your Information

For details on how we collect, use and store the information we hold about you, please take a look at our "how we use your information" leaflet which can be found on the Trust website:

https://www.wwl.nhs.uk/patient_information/leaflets/

This leaflet is also available in audio, large print, braille and other languages upon request.
For more information please ask in the department/ward.

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Wrightington, Wigan and
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Bone Marrow Examination

Haematology Service

Patient Information

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Introduction

This procedure is performed in the Out-patients Department by trained nurses and usually takes about 30 minutes. There are no special preparations needed before the test (e.g. no need to fast from food or drink) Any anticoagulant medication (medicine to prevent blood clots) should be omitted before the procedure. The timing will be decided by your consultant when they book you for the procedure.

You will be asked to lie on your left side with your knees bent up to your chest, as far as you are able. There is no need to undress, just loosen clothing below the waist (tight girdles will have to be removed). The area at the back of the hip is swabbed with a cleaning

solution and then a local anaesthetic is injected, to numb the site.

When the Bone Marrow needle is introduced, you may feel some slight pushing and pressure, then a sharp pulling sensation for a second; as a few drops of bone marrow are withdrawn. A dressing is placed over the area and you will be asked to lie on your back for approximately 15 minutes.

Occasionally a biopsy of the bone marrow is needed. This test is a repeat of the above and takes a little longer. Following either test you do not need to follow any special instructions.

When the anaesthetic 'wears off' you may experience some

discomfort (like toothache). A mild painkiller such as paracetamol can be taken if desired.

Complications of the procedure are rare (less than 1 in 100) these include some bruising or bleeding around the needle site but that will subside over the next few days.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact:

The Haematology Nurse
Specialist, Tel 01942 822964
(answer machine)

Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm