

subside gradually over the next few days. You may take 2 tablets of panadol (up to 3 times a day) for relief of pain.

Are there any serious side effects?

Generally, the procedure is safe with no major side effect.

What happens after the procedure?

You may go home as soon as the procedure is completed. However, if you have received intravenous sedation prior to the procedure, you will feel drowsy and should rest at the centre for a few hours before leaving. You are advised to arrange for a family member or friend to accompany you home.

If you experience any unusual symptoms such as severe persistent pain, fever, redness or discharge from the puncture site, please contact the Haematology Centre at Tel: 6321 4722 during office hours, or proceed to the A&E Department if this condition occurs after office hours, on Sunday or Public Holiday.

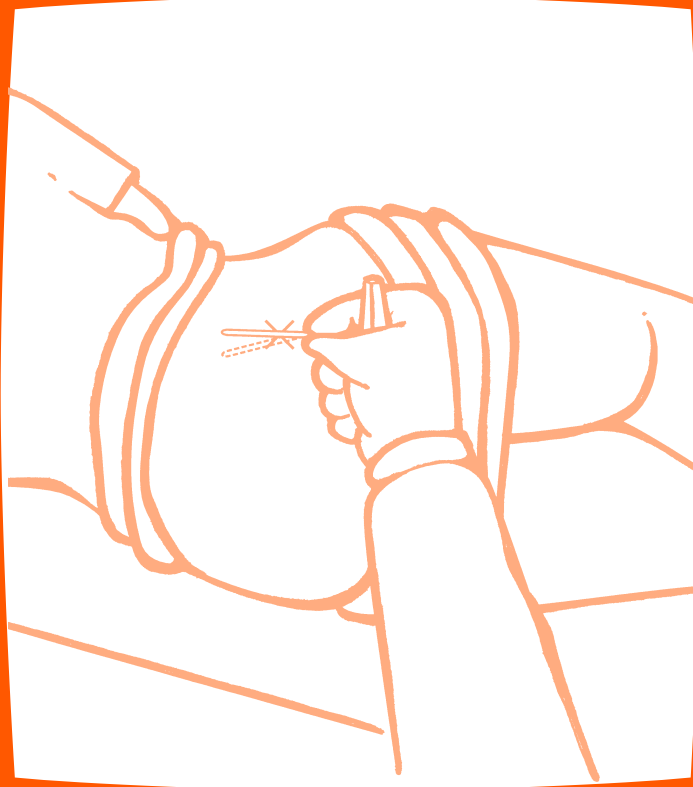


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HAEMATOLOGY CENTRE

Bone Marrow Aspiration & Trephine Biopsy



Singapore
General Hospital
SingHealth

What is Bone Marrow Aspiration and/or Trehphine Biopsy?

Bone marrow aspiration and/or trephine biopsy are tests performed to evaluate the function of the bone marrow. It is a process where bone marrow is withdrawn from the body by means of suction using an instrument called an aspirator. The bone marrow is then sent to the laboratory for testing.

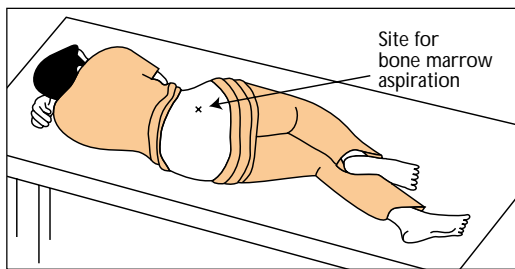
Bone marrow trephine biopsy involves the removal of a small tissue from the bone for microscopical examination. It is usually performed immediately after bone marrow aspiration.

Why do I need to undergo this test?

Your bone marrow produces red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets. This test allows the doctor to study these cells in the various stages of development in order to evaluate and plan for your treatment.

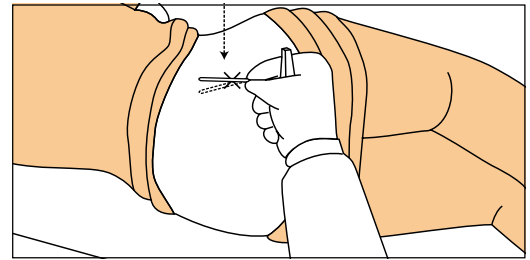
How is the procedure performed?

Bone marrow is withdrawn from the hip bone. During the procedure, you will be resting on your side or in a prone position, lying on your stomach.



- The area for aspiration will be cleansed thoroughly with methylated spirit 70% and providone iodine.

- An injection of local anaesthetic is given to numb the site for aspiration.
- Once the anaesthetic has taken effect, a needle will be inserted into the hip bone, and bone marrow will be aspirated. You may experience some discomfort (such as a pulling-drawing sensation down the leg) during the aspiration process. The whole procedure takes about 15 to 20 minutes.



- A pressure dressing will be applied at the puncture site after the procedure and it should be kept dry for 24 hours. A plaster can replace this pressure dressing the next day if there is still presence of slight bleeding. Otherwise, keep the area clean and dry.

What preparations do I need?

No preparation is required.

Does the procedure hurt?

You may experience slightly more pain at the puncture site as compared to that from a normal injection. However, the pain will be numbed by the local anaesthetic.

After the effects of the anaesthetic have worn off, you may experience some mild pain at the puncture site during the next 48 hours. However, the pain should