

questions to ask your doctor

Diagnosis Questions

What information do you hope to gain from the biopsy?

What is the likelihood that the biopsy will establish a diagnosis?

Can the diagnosis be established by any other methods?

Who will explain the results of the biopsy to me?

How long will I wait until a result is available?

How will I be informed about the result of the biopsy?

Treatment Questions

How is the biopsy done?

Is the procedure painful?

Is a local or general anesthetic involved?

How safe is the biopsy procedure?

Can the biopsy be performed in your office or must the procedure be done in a hospital?

Will you be removing the entire lesion or a part of the lesion? Why?

How many samples will be removed?

How large is the tissue fragment to be removed?

How long will the procedure take?

Can I go about my normal daily activities afterward?

Side Effect Questions

Will I have pain or scarring afterward?

Will I need stitches?

How do I take care of the biopsy site?

What should I do if I think I have an infection?

What does an infection at a biopsy site look like?

Are there any complications that might arise as a result of the biopsy procedure?

If complications develop, what should I do or whom should I contact?