

# Bronchoscopy



Important!

Please read this information leaflet carefully.  
Preparations for the examination.



Lovisenberg Diagonale Sykehus

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## What is bronchoscopy?

Bronchoscopy is an examination of the lungs. A thin, flexible tube is passed through the mouth or nose. Bronchoscopy allows diagnosis of diseases in the airway or lungs, and allows samples to be taken if necessary.

## Preparing for the examination

You must fast from 12 a.m. (24:00) the night before the examination. While fasting, avoid any food, drink, chewing-gum, snus, smoke etc.

## Medications and other health conditions

- You must inform us of any medications you have a history of adverse reactions to, any heart conditions you may have - such as angina (angina pectoris), and any hemorrhological issues (such as bleeding easily). This may affect our choice of procedure.
- If you have any diseases that increase the risk of inflammation in your heart or circulatory system (e.g. if you have previously had heart valve surgery) you must call us beforehand. You may then need antibiotics before the examination.

## Medicines that affect bleeding time

- If you use blood thinning medication, such as **Xarelto**, **Pradaxa**, **Eliquis** or **Albyl-E**, you must stop taking these two days prior to the examination.
- If you use **Marevan**, you must stop taking it three days prior to the examination. You will also need to come to the reception desk at Medisinsk poliklinikk one hour before your appointed examination time to inform us of this, so that you can have your INR levels checked at our laboratory prior to the examination. However:
- If you have previously had surgery to insert mechanical heart valves, you must not stop taking Marevan. Instead, **please contact us as soon as possible so that we may make an assessment.**

## The examination procedure

- You will be provided with appropriate garments.
- You will be placed in a bed with your torso elevated.
- Any dentures will be removed.
- You will receive medication to sedate you and to alleviate coughing.
- The examination is not painful, but it can elicit coughing.
- If necessary, some tissue or bacterial samples will be taken during the procedure.
- The procedure is normally completed in 10-20 minutes.

## After the examination

- Due to the sedatives administered you must rest a few hours after the examination.
- Due to sedation of your pharynx, your swallow function will be impaired. Accordingly, you must not eat or drink anything for three hours after the examination.
- You may not drive motorized vehicles for 24 hours after the procedure.
- The referring doctor will be informed of the results of your examination once the results are in.
- You can request a written statement confirming that you have been to this examination. However, a sick leave form (sykemelding) will not be issued by our staff.

## Complications

- Complications following bronchoscopy are rare.
- Some patients may experience coughing for some time after the examination, and may produce some blood-stained mucus. This effect will cease in time.
- Should you fall ill after returning home, please call the hospital reception desk, tel. 23 22 50 00, and ask for the physician on duty at the medical clinic (vaktthavende lege, medisinsk klinikk).