

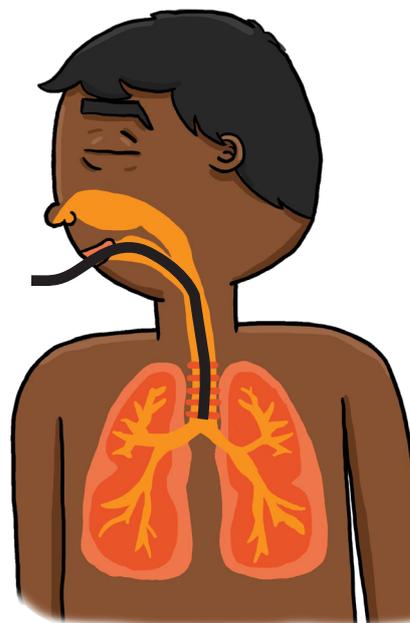


Bronchoscopy (bron-kos-ka-pee)

A bronchoscopy is a test that helps doctors see inside the lungs to find out if there are any problems. A bronchoscope is a thin flexible tube with a light and camera on one end. The doctor will thread the tube through the nose or mouth to look inside the lungs.

What happens?

- Bub will need to be put to sleep for the test and won't feel anything.
- The test takes **15-30 minutes**.
- The anaesthetist is a doctor who puts bub to sleep. The anaesthetist will talk to you about the test, the anaesthetic (sleeping medication) and risks.
- The doctor will ask for your consent (to say bub can be put to sleep and have the bronchoscopy).
- You will need to wait for bub to **wake up**, which may be 1 to 2 hours.
- You will need to stay in Perth for 1 to 2 days after.



Can I be with my child?

- A family member can be with bub during the anaesthetic.
- Bub can bring a teddy or toy to be with them.
- Once bub is asleep you will be taken to the waiting area.
- You will be called back when bub is waking up.
- The doctor will talk to you after the bronchoscopy to explain what they saw.

What happens before the test?

- Bub needs to **FAST / EMPTY TUMMY**(no eating or drinking).
- **FAST / EMPTY TUMMY** means: **DO NOT GIVE BUB FOOD OR DRINK** (no breast milk) **BEFORE TEST**.
- The **test will be cancelled** if bub has anything to eat or drink.
- A nurse will call you 2 days before the test to tell you how long your child will need to fast.
- The doctor will yarn with you about the test and any risks.
- Side effects usually get better in 1-2 days.

You can go home when bub is:

- completely awake
- keeping fluids down
- back to normal.

Doctors will have a yarn to you if bub needs to stay in hospital because:

- bub is unwell or there is a problem after the procedure
- doctors are worried or found something during the procedure.

Risks of bronchoscopy and anaesthetic

The chance of something going wrong is small but the doctor must yarn with you about all of the risks. Uncommon risks:

- Low oxygen levels: bub will be given oxygen if the levels are low. Usually this will get better within a few hours but if not, bub might stay overnight.
- Sometimes after the procedure bleeding can occur from the breathing tubes. Bleeding is usually small and stops within a day.
- Major bleeding is very uncommon.
- Aspiration pneumonia (vomit goes into the lungs). If bub has fasted this is very unlikely.
- Pneumothorax (air leak in chest). This is very unlikely.

Side effects

Usually get better in 1 to 2 days.



Coughing



Sore throat



Wheezing or noisy breathing – bubs with lung sickness like asthma (short wind) may need extra medication



Fever



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