

Name of Child: _____ Date: _____

Bone Marrow Aspiration

What is a bone marrow aspiration?

Bone marrow is inside the large bones of the body. It makes the blood cells. In a bone marrow aspiration a small sample of liquid bone marrow is taken from the body, to look at the blood cells. A nurse practitioner or doctor pushes a needle into the bone, usually a hip bone, and gently pulls a little bone marrow into the syringe. The bone marrow is red, and looks like blood.

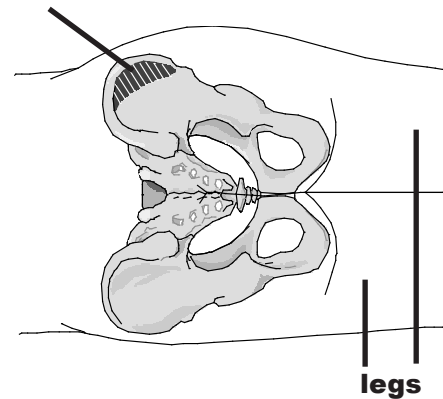


What bone marrow looks like under a microscope.

Why do a bone marrow biopsy?

To look at blood cell types, we do a bone marrow aspiration. To look at cell structure, we do a bone marrow biopsy. Both tests can look for cells that are not normal.

where bone marrow is taken from the hip bone



The bone marrow aspiration/biopsy will be on

(date) _____

at (time) _____ am/pm.

Getting ready

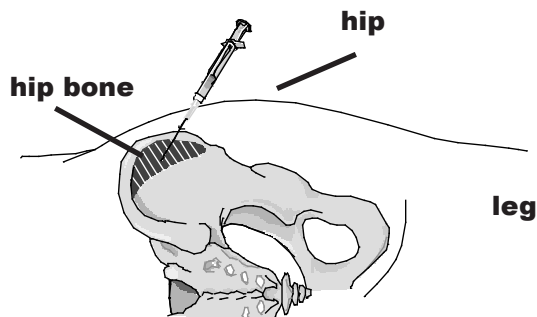
- If your child is old enough to understand, explain to your child what will happen. Do this when you think the time is right. Children do best when they are told what they will see, feel and hear during the test.
 - yes no Your child should have nothing to eat or drink for _____ hours before the test.
 - yes no You will be given a cream to numb the area where the needle will go in. The doctor or nurse will show you where to put the cream.
 - Read the handout about EMLA Cream (#157). (Check when done.)
 - yes no The doctor or nurse practitioner will give your child an injection to numb the skin.
 - yes no Your child will have an IV put in.
 - Read the handout about IVs. (#107) (Check when done.)
 - yes no Your child has a central venous catheter, and does not need an IV.

During the test

- This test is usually done in the Procedure Room. A nurse practitioner or doctor may do the bone marrow aspiration biopsy. There may also be a nurse or counselor in the room, to talk to your child during the test. Your child will be told what to expect during the test.
- You may stay with your child during the test, or wait outside the Procedure Room.
- A nurse will help your child lie down on his or her side, back, or stomach, on the treatment table, for the test.
- Your child may be given medicine that could make him or her feel relaxed or sleepy. Your child may be awake during the test. This medicine may also make your child forget the whole test. If medicine is given, a machine (**monitor**) will be used to watch your child's heart rate and breathing.
- A nurse or doctor will clean the skin with alcohol and a brown liquid (**Betadine**) that will kill the germs on the skin.

- A nurse practitioner or doctor will put medicine on the skin to make it numb. The medicine may sting for a moment.

- The nurse practitioner or doctor will put the needle in where it is numb, into the bone marrow. The needle should not hurt as it goes through the skin. It may ache a bit when it goes into the bone.



The nurse practitioner or doctor will put the needle in where it is numb, into the bone marrow.

In a bone marrow aspiration, some children say they feel a cramp when the liquid marrow is taken out. A bone marrow biopsy may hurt for the few minutes it takes to get the core sample.

After the test

- After the needle is taken out, the skin will be covered with a gauze pad or Band-Aid.

- The place where the needle went in may bleed or bruise. If it keeps bleeding, a nurse will press on the gauze pad.

yes no Your child may feel sore for a few hours after the bone marrow aspiration.

yes no Your child may feel sore for a few hours or days after the bone marrow biopsy. Ask the doctor what medicine you can give your child for this.

- Your child can play quietly for the rest of the day, like read or watch TV.

- Keep the gauze dressing clean and dry. Wait until the next day to take off the bandage and to shower or bathe.

yes no Read the handout called **Home Care After Sedation (#43)**.

Talk to your nurse about how you will care for your child at home after the test. (Check when done.)

Follow-up

Call Dr. _____ at (phone number) _____

on (date) _____ to find out the test results.

Call your child's doctor for the test results.

Now that you've read this:

Tell your child's nurse or doctor how you will get your child ready for this test. (Check when done.)



If you have any questions or concerns,

call your child's doctor or call _____

If you want to know more about child health and illness,
visit our library at The Emily Center at Phoenix Children's Hospital
1919 East Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85016
602-546-1400
www.phoenixchildrenshospital.com

Disclaimer

The information provided at this site is intended to be general information, and is provided for educational purposes only. It is not intended to take the place of examination, treatment, or consultation with a physician. Phoenix Children's Hospital urges you to contact your physician with any questions you may have about a medical condition.

Thursday, March 1, 2007 • DRAFT to family review
#177 • Written by A. White, MS, RN • Illustrated by Dennis Swain
Edited by M. Jacobson, BSN, RN

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The Emily Center

Bone Marrow Aspiration

Diagnostic Test, Exam

Si usted desea esta información en español, por favor pídasela a su enfermero o doctor.

Name of Health Care Provider: _____ Number: 177
For office use: Date returned: _____ db nb

Family Review of Handout

Health care providers: Please teach families with this handout.

Families: Please let us know what you think of this handout.

Would you say this handout is hard to read? Yes No

easy to read? Yes No

Please circle the parts of the handout that were hard to understand.

Would you say this handout is interesting to read? Yes No

Why or why not?

Would you do anything differently after reading this handout? Yes No

If yes, what?

After reading this handout, do you have any questions about the subject? Yes No

If yes, what?

Is there anything you don't like about the drawings?

Yes No

If yes, what?

What changes would you make in this handout to make it better or easier to understand?

Please return your review of this handout to your nurse or doctor or send it to the address below.

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Thank you for helping us!