

Bronchoscopy

What is a Bronchoscopy?

A “bronchoscopy” is a test that allows the doctor to examine the inside of your airways, including your throat, voice box (larynx), windpipe (trachea), and the large airways in your lungs (bronchi). The doctor will use a thin, flexible tube with a tiny camera and light to take pictures.

Why it's important to have a Bronchoscopy?

Your doctor wants you to have these procedures because you have been having trouble with your breathing or lungs. This test may help give your doctor important information to help you feel better.

Your job during a Bronchoscopy.

You will be taking a quick nap, with help from a medicine called anesthesia, during your bronchoscopy. The doctor will make sure you are safe and comfortable during the procedure. When you are done, the medicine will start to wear off and you will wake up.

What happens when you have a Bronchoscopy?

- You will be asked to change into hospital pajamas.
- The nurse will check your vital signs—weight, temperature, heart rate (stethoscope on heart & lungs), pulse and oxygen level (light on finger), as well as blood pressure (hug on arm).
- The child life specialist or nurse will explain what will happen during your visit today and answer any questions that you may have.
- Numbing cream will be offered to help numb your skin for an IV that will be needed to give your body anesthesia medicine. Check out our steps for getting an IV.
- Now you are ready to go to the bronchoscopy area, where your pictures are taken. You will ride in your bed with wheels. A nurse will drive you and a child life specialist can accompany you. Everyone in the procedure room is very friendly!
- This room has a machine that looks like video game systems stacked on top of each other. There is a TV screen connected. This machine connects to a special camera which looks at your airways and lungs.
- The nurse will place monitors back on your body, so that your body will communicate with the doctors while you are getting anesthesia medicine; blood pressure cuff on arm/leg, pulse oximeter on finger/toe, EKG stickers on chest and side.
- The Anesthesiologist is a doctor who gives medicine to help you take a special nap for your pictures. The doctor will put some medicine into the end of your IV. Some kids like to see how high they can count before the anesthesia does its job. The medicine going into your IV might feel a bit cool, a bit warm or you may not feel it at all. If you do, the feeling will go away quickly.
- Continued...



University of
Vermont Health

Golisano
Children's Hospital

UVMHealth.org

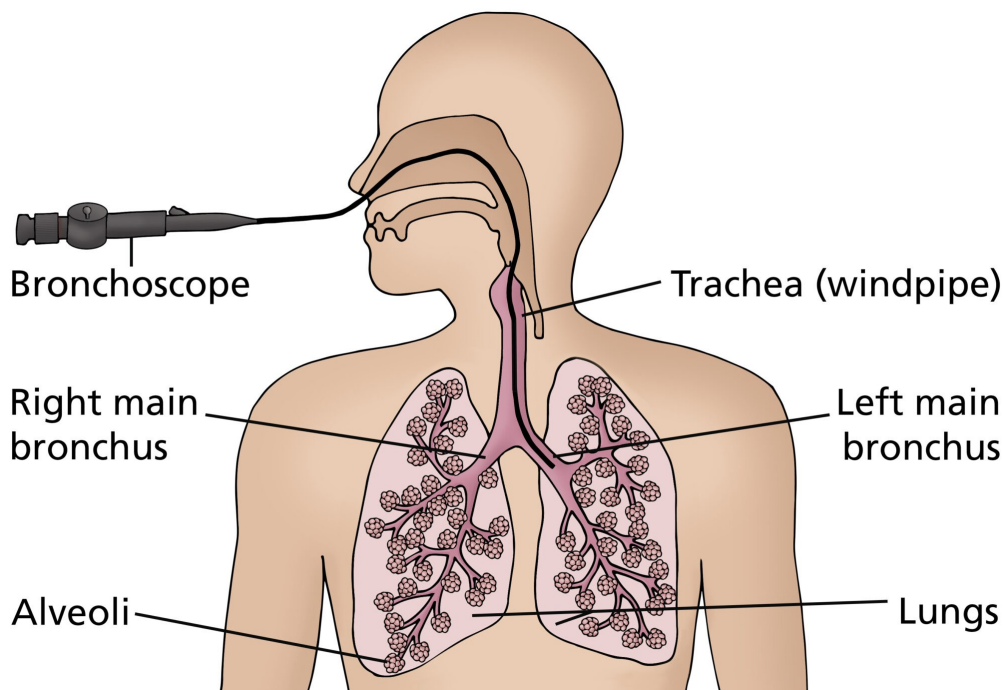
Bronchoscopy Cont'd.

- Once finished with your pictures, you and your bed will be moved to the recovery room which is a small room made private with a curtain. This is where you will wake up with your caregiver(s) by your side. The doctor will chat with your caregiver about the examination and pictures afterward. The nurse will take your IV out. You will have something to drink and finally change back into your clothing.
- It is helpful to take a wheelchair ride to the car, as it is a long walk and you will feel a bit groggy and off balance for a few hours.

Things that can help when having an IV prior to a Bronchoscopy.

- Ask about available numbing cream and other pain control options. This may include application of Emla cream (1-hour prior) or by requesting LMX cream (30 minutes prior), the use of Buzzy Bee or Sweet-Ease (if less than 18 months).
- IV Education with a Child Life Specialist.
- Comfort positioning.
- Blocking the Sight with an I-Spy Board.
- Distraction such as fidget toy, book, tablet, singing, etc.
- Breathing Reminders and/or Counting; "Breathe in on 1,2 and out on 3."
- Children take cues from their caregivers, so it is helpful to remain calm.

Body Systems








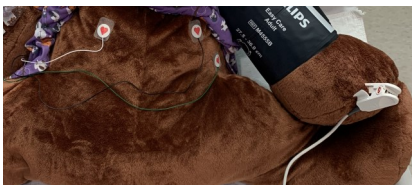

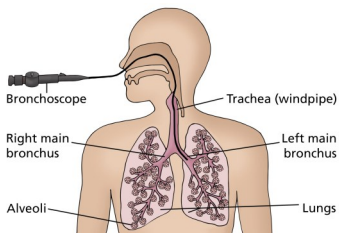




University of
Vermont Health

Golisano
Children's Hospital

UVMHealth.org

Steps for a Bronchoscopy

		
Hospital Pajamas	Vitals—Temp. across forehead, Blood Pressure (hug on arm), Weight, Heart Rate & Pulse (light on finger)	Numbing cream
		
IV Steps	IV placement	Ride to the procedure room
		
Procedure room	Light on finger , Hug on arm, Heart monitor stickers	Anesthesia medicine in IV
		
Pictures during anesthesia nap	Recovery room & Review with Doctor	Wheel chair ride to the car



University of
Vermont Health

Golisano
Children's Hospital

UVMHealth.org