

An orbital biopsy is a procedure used to determine what is causing a lesion or discomfort in the eye. This can be done several different ways by either an eye surgeon or a head and neck surgeon.

Open Biopsy

The doctor performs this type of biopsy in the operating room. A small incision is made through the skin or conjunctiva (mucus membrane around the front of the eye), and a piece of the suspicious mass is taken for review by a pathologist.



Fine Needle Aspiration (FNA) Biopsy

A very thin needle is inserted into the lesion to extract cells for analysis. Image guidance may or may not be needed depending on the location of the lesion.

Transnasal Biopsy

This is reserved for tumors growing into the nose or on the inner part of the eye. Your nose will be decongested and numbed before a special camera, called an endoscope, is inserted into the nose. Endoscopic forceps are used to remove pieces of the tumor. This biopsy can be performed by a surgeon in either the clinic or the operating room depending on the tumor's location.



Please note that this information is intended for educational purposes. It does not replace consultation with your doctor, and it should not be interpreted as medical advice. We encourage you to speak to your health care provider if you have further questions or concerns regarding your medical care.

For more information scan this code or visit: https://thancguide.org/cancer-basics/diagnosis/biopsy/orbital/