Endoscopy Centre

The Centre is managed by a team of dedicated and experienced endoscopists. It is equipped with state-of-the-art endoscopic imaging systems and the aim is to provide high quality services in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the gastrointestinal tract, biliary and pancreatic system as well as the respiratory system. If necessary, the procedure will be performed under monitored anaesthesia care with the help of our experienced anaesthesiologists to minimise any discomfort he/she might encounter during the procedure.

Our specialists will tell you right after the procedure what is seen in your respiratory tract. If biopsies are taken, it will take two to three working days to complete the report. Your specialist or attending doctor will contact you for subsequent follow-up and treatment.

For enquiries and appointments, please contact us at:

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Service Hours (By appointment only)
Monday to Saturday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays

www.hksh-hospital.com

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Bronchoscopy is an investigatory procedure which allows the doctor to look inside your airways by using a thin and flexible tube called a bronchoscope (about the width of a pencil) with a tiny video camera and light source at the end that is placed through your nose or mouth to visualise the airways. It helps the doctor to diagnose lung problems such as a mass in the lung, chest infection, coughing up blood or abnormal chest X-Ray findings. The doctor may take some airway secretions and/or a biopsy and send them to the pathology laboratory for testing.

Who Should Have Bronchoscopy?

The procedure is indicated for:

- Persistent cough
- Difficulty in breathing
- Coughing up blood
- Abnormal chest X-Ray
- Inhalation of a foreign object
- Slow-resolving pneumonia

How to Prepare for the Procedure?

- Do not eat or drink for at least six to eight hours before the procedure.
- Remove dentures before the procedure.

What Happens When the Procedure is Performed?

- You will probably be given a “sedative” either through an intravenous (IV) line or intramuscularly (IM) before the procedure begins. This medication reduces the discomfort that you might encounter and will put you to sleep through the procedure.
- The doctor will usually spray a local anaesthetic into your nose and mouth. This numbs your throat and helps reduce your tendency to gag during the procedure.
- During this procedure, you will lie on your back on a bed with your shoulders and neck supported by a pillow. Oxygen will be given either via a nasal catheter or a face mask.
- The doctor will insert a flexible bronchoscope through either your nose or mouth.
- Once the bronchoscope is inserted into your upper airway, the doctor will examine your vocal cords. Then, the doctor will continue to advance the instrument into your trachea and bronchi.
- If an abnormality is discovered, the doctor may take a tissue sample for histology examination.
- The procedure takes about 20 minutes.

Must I Do Anything Special After the Procedure is Over?

- When the procedure is finished, you will be observed by a nurse until you are stable and awake enough to leave.
- If sedatives have been given, you must be accompanied by an adult on discharge because the intravenous sedation might make you dizzy. Please do not drive, ride a bicycle, operate any machinery or drink any alcoholic beverage within 24 hours after the procedure.
- If a local anaesthetic has been used, it usually leaves a bitter taste in your mouth and may cause a sensation of swelling in the back of your throat and difficulty in swallowing. You may also have a sore throat and some hoarseness of voice for a few days. These symptoms should gradually subside. Inform your doctor if these symptoms persist.