

SKIN BIOPSY FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

• What is a skin biopsy?

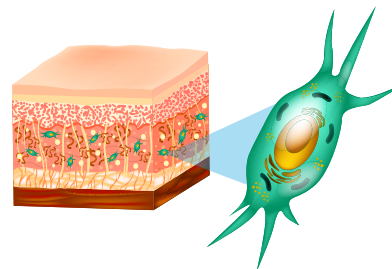
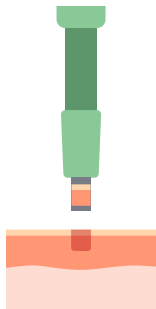
A skin biopsy is a procedure where a small sample of skin is collected for testing. In the LITE study, two types of skin biopsies may be performed:

- a. Punch biopsy
- b. Fibroblast biopsy (upper arm biopsy)

• Why is it important in the study?

Skin biopsies help researchers study changes in cells and proteins linked to Parkinson's disease.

- Punch biopsies allow researchers to look for abnormal alpha-synuclein, a protein associated with Parkinson's disease.
- Fibroblast biopsies provide cells that help researchers understand how genes and cells may affect Parkinson's disease.



• What is the procedure?

Before the Procedure: The study team will explain the process and answer any questions. You will be asked to change into a clean gown. The doctor will clean the area of skin where the biopsy will be taken and apply medication to numb the area.

- **Punch Biopsy:** Once the area is numb, a small circular sample of skin is removed from the neck and possibly the leg, using a punch tool. Up to two punch biopsies may be taken. The procedure takes only a few minutes.
- **Fibroblast Biopsy:** For some participants, a second biopsy may be done on the upper arm. This will be discussed with you beforehand.
Once the area is numb, a small piece of skin is removed using scissors. This procedure takes only a few minutes.

Completion: Your wound will be bandaged and should stay covered for about 48 hours.

• What can happen after a skin biopsy?

Skin biopsies are safe and commonly performed. You may feel some discomfort once the local anesthetic wears off.

Possible effects include:

- Mild pain or bruising
- A small scar at the biopsy site
- Rarely, infection or skin discoloration

• How is my privacy protected?

Your samples and data are handled with care to protect your identity. Here's how:

- Each sample is labeled with a study ID, not your name
- Your personal information is removed before analysis, so researchers will not know the sample belongs to you
- Only approved laboratory teams working on the study will have access to your samples
- All data and samples are managed according to laws that protect your privacy

• Will I get the results from the analysis of my skin biopsy?

If a skin biopsy reveals something unexpected and clinically important, such as an abnormal result, the study team will let you know. With your permission, they may also share this information with your personal doctor and help arrange follow-up care if needed.

Research results that are not clinically relevant will not be returned.



• Any other questions?

If you have any other questions about the skin biopsy procedure, you can discuss your concerns with a research team member involved in carrying out the study or a doctor involved in your care.

• Your Local Investigator for the LITE Study Is •

Principal Investigator: Dr. Esther Sammler

If you are interested in taking part in this study or would like more information, please ask the nurse or doctor looking after you to contact the study team.

Or: Call Researcher: [TBC]

Or: Email: [TBC]

We will discuss the study further and answer any questions you have.

You can find more information about the study in the Participant Information Sheet.