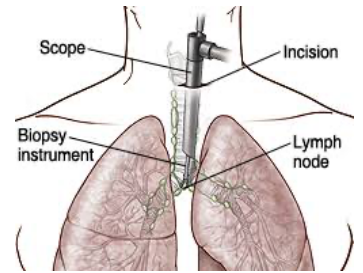


1. What is a Mediastinoscopy?

Dr Fourie uses a mediastinoscope to look into the space behind your breast bone. This space is the centre of the chest inbetween the lungs and contain the heart its great vessels and lymphnodes. This is done to take a small tissue sample of abnormal tissue from a lymphnode or cancer

A small cut is made at the bottom of you neck and a videocamera is inserted to see all the structures in the middle of the chest.
A small instrument is used to remove a piece of any tissue that looks abnormal.

The small cut is closed with sutures



2. My Anaesthetic

This procedure requires Anaesthetic. You will be referred to the anaesthetist’s office or the anaesthetist will come and see you in the hospital before surgery. He/She will supply you with an **Anaesthetic information sheet** about the anaesthesia and the risks involved. If you have any concerns discuss it with your anaesthetist.

3. What are the risks to this procedure?

In recommending this procedure Dr Fourie has balanced the benefits and the risks of the procedure against the benefits and the risks of no intervention. Dr Fourie believes there is a net benefit to you having this procedure. This is a very complicated assessment. There are risks and complications with this procedure. They include, but are not limited to the following:

Common risks and complications (>5%)	Uncommon risks and complications (1-5%)	Rare risks and complications (<1%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collapsed lung (pneumothorax): you may need a tube inserted between the ribs to reinflate the lung. This may require a longer stay in hospital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heart problems: a brief minor strain may be put on the heart. This can cause abnormal beating of the heart. It rarely causes fluid to collect in the lungs or a heart attack. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bleeding: this can be severe that you need surgery with opening of the chest through the breast bone.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased risk in obese people: wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications and thrombosis 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Death as a result of this procedure is rare

4. Post-Procedure Expectations

This is a day procedure. Depending on your disease and functional status before the procedure, you should be able to go home a few hours after the procedure