North Atlanta Endocrinology & Diabetes, PC DIANON biopsy information.

Your physician has recommended you have a thyroid biopsy using the DIANON protocol. This laboratory does an analysis of your thyroid biopsy cells on a molecular level to rule out cancer. This test may also run a gene expression tool to help identify thyroid cancer. This test may be performed by your physician if a previous biopsy was indeterminate, if there were not enough cells on the biopsy slides, or if the specimen consisted only of blood (Insufficient or questionable results).

This cutting edge technology is to assist in the prevention of unnecessary thyroid surgery when there is an atypical (abnormal) biopsy where cancerous cells cannot be ruled out (also called suspicious), when the cells that were obtained thru a biopsy were 'indeterminate', or insufficient for a proper diagnosis.

The company that processes these results will bill you separately. The charges are as follows:

Cost to insurance is <u>approximately \$5000.00 for each nodule</u>. If your insurance doesn't cover this DIANON will send you a bill for the balance. If you are not covered by Medicare or commercial insurance you will be billed directly from DIANON. This is also the cash price.

The number to DIANON is -1-800-328-2666. The special test code that your insurance may ask for (CPT code) 81445.

The normal NAED office charges and co-pays apply for performing the biopsy, even if it is your second or third biopsy.

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