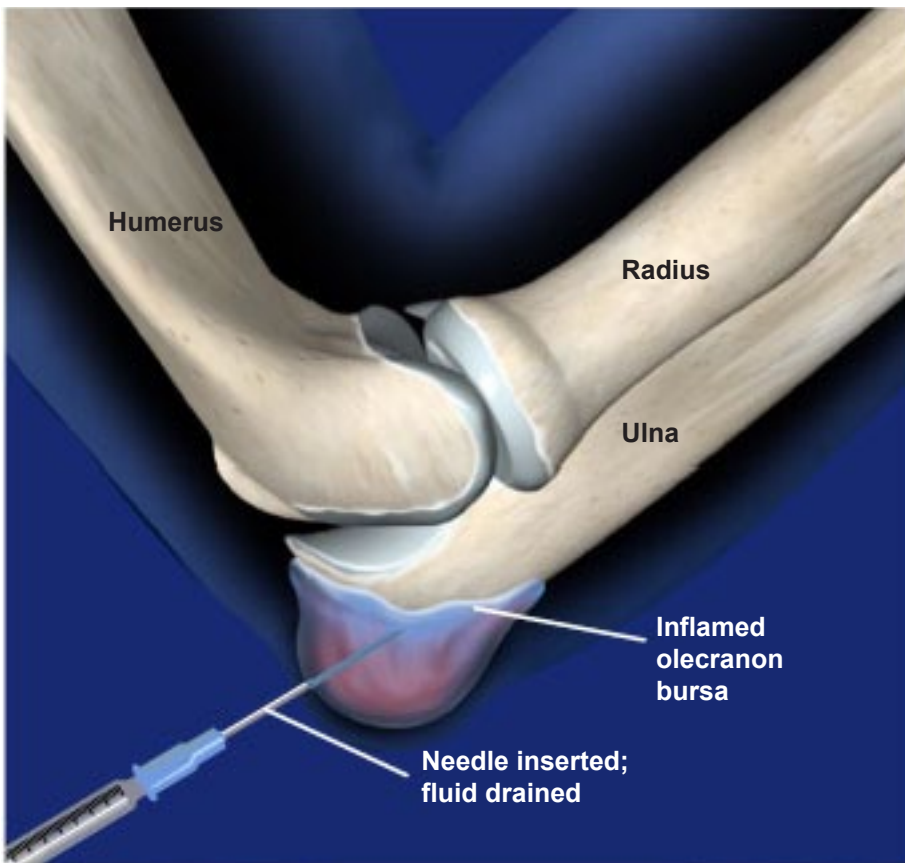


**Aspiration of the Olecranon Bursa**



**Overview**

This outpatient procedure relieves pain and swelling in the elbow caused by bursitis, or inflammation of the bursa. The bursa is a fluid-filled sac between the skin and bones of the elbow.

**Preparation**

The patient is positioned so that the elbow can be bent comfortably, and the back of the elbow is cleaned and sterilized. Local anesthesia is administered to numb the injection site.

**Removing Fluid**

The physician inserts the needle and guides it into the affected bursa. The needle is carefully pushed into the bursa, and excess fluid is drained to reduce the swelling. Corticosteroid medication may also be injected in patients with chronic bursitis.

**End of Procedure**

The needle is slowly withdrawn, and the injection site may be covered with a small bandage. Extended pain relief usually begins within two to three days of the injection.