

About the Procedure

An ultrasound guided core needle breast biopsy is a procedure which takes tiny samples of breast tissue which can then be studied under the microscope. During this procedure, the ultrasound helps to locate the tissue that needs to be removed. This type of biopsy may prevent the need for an open surgical biopsy.

The total appointment time will be about 90 minutes. Ultrasound guided needle breast biopsy is a safe procedure with some rare risks associated with it. Potential complications include, but are not limited to, bleeding, infection and failure to remove the targeted tissue. Depending on the results of the biopsy, an open surgical biopsy may be required.

procedure

You will undress from the waist up and put on a gown that opens in the front. You will be lying on your back during the procedure. The skin on the breast will be cleansed with betadine and a local anesthetic will be used to numb the area. A small nick is made in the skin and the biopsy device is introduced into the breast under ultrasound guidance. Using the biopsy device, cores of breast tissue are removed. A small clip is then placed to mark the area from where the biopsy was taken for future reference. Steri-strips are applied to close the incision. An ice pack is placed after the biopsy. You will be able to go home shortly after the procedure.

after the breast biopsy

- The ice pack may be removed when you return home.
- You may shower after 24 hours (leave the steri-strips in place).
- You may remove the steri-strips after 5–7 days.
- Bruising is fairly common after this procedure.
- The small nick made in the skin may leave a tiny scar.
- If you need medication for discomfort, please take only Tylenol™. You should avoid aspirin, ibuprofen (Advil™), Aleve™ and Celebrex™ for 5 days after the procedure.
- Do not participate in strenuous activity (golf, tennis, exercise, lifting, heavy household activities) for at least 48 hours after the procedure.
- You will be notified of your biopsy results 2-3 days after the biopsy. If you have not heard after 4 days, please contact the office.
- If you have bleeding, fevers or chills after the biopsy, please call the office where you had your procedure.

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