

Stereotactic Biopsy

Your doctor has ordered a Stereotactic Biopsy procedure to be conducted in the Sheila R. Veloz Breast Center. The breast center is staffed with sensitive and caring staff that include, certified technologists, a breast health nurse navigator, and board certified radiologists, all of whom are breast imaging specialists.

What Is A Stereotactic Biopsy?

Stereotactic biopsy is a computer-assisted needle biopsy which is used for extracting samples of a mass or calcifications which can be seen on mammography but not felt on breast examination.

Who Performs The Procedure?

The biopsy is performed by a radiologist who is specially trained in performing breast procedures.

What Happens During The Procedure?

You will be lying on your stomach on a special x-ray table designed for this procedure. Your breast hangs down through a circular hole near the middle of the table. The breast needs to be compressed for the procedure to be accurate. The breast is cleaned and numbed in the area of the biopsy with a local anesthetic. A small cut is made in the skin to allow insertion of a special type of needle into the breast. Special mammographic pictures are taken before and during the biopsy to confirm that the needle passed through the lesion. Then several tiny tissue samples are removed through the needle. Steri-strips and a dressing are applied.

How Do I Prepare For The Biopsy?

- Don't use lotion, cream, powder, deodorant, or perfume on your arm, underarm, or breast on the day of the procedure.
- Please inform us if you are sensitive to or allergic to any medicines, latex, tape, and local anesthesia medicines.
- Please inform us if you have a history of bleeding disorders and are taking any blood-thinning medicines, aspirin, ibuprofen, or other medicines that affect blood clotting. You will need to stop taking these medicines five days before the biopsy.

How Long Does The Biopsy Take?

You can expect the procedure to last about one to one and half hours.

What Are The Risks Of A Breast Biopsy?

All procedures have some risk. Some possible complications of a breast biopsy include:

- Bruising and mild pain at the biopsy site
- Prolonged bleeding from the biopsy site
- Infection near the biopsy site

Please contact our office if you have any of the following:

- Fever or chills
- Redness, swelling, bleeding, or other drainage from the biopsy site
- Increased pain around the biopsy site

How Will I Feel After The Biopsy?

Generally patients feel fine after the procedure. Usually there isn't any pain associated with the procedure. If there is mild pain, it can easily be controlled with Tylenol.

When Can I Expect To Know My Results?

The results of your breast biopsy will be sent to your doctor within three to five working days. Your doctor will inform you of the results.

Who Can I Contact For Questions?

For scheduling or billing questions contact 661.200.1099. Our staff is here to help answer any questions or concerns you have. Our breast health nurse navigators are available to answer questions and provide support before, during, and after your procedure.