

Ultrasound Breast Needle Biopsy

Your doctor has ordered an ultrasound guided breast biopsy procedure to be conducted in the Sheila R. Veloz Breast Center. The breast center has 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 An Ultrasound Guided Breast Biopsy?

This procedure uses ultrasound to guide a needle into a mass or abnormality within the breast. A breast ultrasound uses waves to produce a picture. There is no radiation involved.

Who Performs The Procedure?

The biopsy is performed by a radiologist who is specially trained in reviewing ultrasound pictures and performing breast procedures.

What Happens During The Procedure?

You will be lying down on a table on your back. A technologist will scan the breast using an ultrasound machine. If the mass appears to be fluid filled (cyst), an aspiration will be performed. If the mass appears to be solid, a core biopsy will be performed.

Aspiration

An aspiration is done if the mass or abnormality has fluid in it. This is usually a benign cyst. The breast is cleaned and numbed in the area of the mass with a local anesthetic. A small needle is inserted into the breast and the fluid is removed from the mass. A small dressing or band aid is applied.

Core Biopsy

A core biopsy is performed if the mass has solid tissue within it. The breast is cleaned and numbed in the area of the biopsy with a local anesthetic. A small cut is made in the skin. A special type of needle is inserted into the breast and tiny tissue samples are removed. When each sample is taken there is a clicking noise, and you may have a feeling of pressure in the breast where the sample is taken. Most patients experience only mild discomfort during either procedure.

After the samples have been taken, the biopsy area will be pressed on firmly for a few minutes to reduce bruising and bleeding, and then covered with a dressing.

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 hour.

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.