

ULTRASOUND GUIDED CORE BREAST BIOPSY

When there is an abnormality that is found on an ultrasound or on palpation, and it is felt that a diagnosis is needed, we use a **minimally invasive technique** for biopsy called a **Ultrasound Guided Breast Biopsy**.

WHAT IS A ULTRASOUND GUIDED BREAST BIOPSY?

During this procedure, you will lay on your back on the exam table. Once the area of concern is noted on the ultrasound, the skin area will be cleaned with some Bata dine solution.

Local anesthesia is used to numb the area where the probe will be inserted. A small incision, smaller than your fingernail, will be made. The probe will be inserted.

The probe is then advanced. You will hear a loud noise, and will feel pressure. But you should feel no pain. Tissue samples are obtained. Since the area is numbed so well prior to the case, the procedure is very comfortable for the patient.

Once the samples are taken, a clip is placed in the area that was biopsied. This allows us to mark the area that was sampled. This can be very useful to identify the area biopsied in the future. Due to the fact that sometimes the probes take out the entire area that is of concern during sampling, it is a good idea to leave a marker behind. In the case of a malignancy that may be found, the clip is our guide to go to the area of the cancer at the time of the cancer surgery. In cases where the area is benign, and not a cancer, the clip allows us to know what area was sampled. The clip does not set off alarms at the airport, and it does not interfere with MRI technology.

Once the procedure is done, small butterfly strips called steri strips are placed in the area of the biopsy. You will then get a mammogram to make sure that the clip deployed and the area is adequately sampled. You will then be given some post procedure instructions, and a follow up appointment will be made for you to come back and get the results. **The entire procedure usually takes about 45 minutes** for each site to be biopsied. Since this is done under local anesthesia, you can drive yourself back and forth to the procedure. You can eat and drink anything you want the day of the biopsy.

However, **one week** prior to the biopsy, **no aspirin, Aleve, Motrin, Coumadin, vitamin E, or any other blood thinners**. Those who are on the aspirin or coumadin for cardiac issues need to notify their doctors who are prescribing these medications and let them know that you will be having a biopsy. Therefore, you will be off the medications for a week prior to the procedure.