

Breast Biopsy:

Ultrasound Guided Needle Core Method

Based on the results from your last mammogram, your physician has recommended a breast biopsy to obtain further information. This can be done with a minimally invasive procedure known as needle core biopsy.

During a needle core biopsy, a provider removes small tissue samples from a specific breast area using a hollow core needle. The physician guides the needle to the correct location by using ultrasound or feeling the area under the skin (palpating).

You will be asked by clinic staff to review your medical history and all medications you are currently taking, including over-the-counter medications. You may need to discontinue taking a medication before the biopsy procedure.

Before the procedure



- You do not need to fast on the day of the biopsy.
- You may shower or bathe as usual on the morning of the procedure.
- Please do not use talcum powder, deodorant or perfume on the day of your biopsy. These products contain substances that may interfere with the reading of the images.
- You will need to disrobe to the waist. Please wear a comfortable two-piece garment and a supportive bra.

During the Procedure

During the procedure, you will lie down on an exam or procedure table. Small foam wedges may be used to help you hold a comfortable position while the samples are collected.

The physician will cleanse your breast area and locally numb that area with a small hypodermic needle. The physician will then take several small breast tissue samples through the hollow core needle. You may hear a mechanical sound from the specially-designed biopsy instrument as the samples are taken. You may sense light pressure, but you should not feel sharp pain. Depending on the type of abnormality in the mammogram, the physician will remove about five samples (or “cores”) that are 3/4” long and 1/8” in diameter. Your breast tissue samples will be sent to pathology for diagnosis.

The physician and technologist will keep you informed about what is happening throughout the procedure. The procedure will last approximately 30 minutes.

After the Procedure

You may experience some bleeding where the needle was inserted. The physician or technologist will apply pressure to the area and cover the site with a bandage. You will receive a cold pack to apply to help reduce swelling. To alleviate any discomfort, you may take a non-aspirin pain reliever such as Tylenol (2 tablets every 4 to 6 hours).

You may notice some bruising in the area, which should go away in 5 to 7 days. **Please contact your physician if you notice any excessive swelling, bleeding, drainage, redness or heat.**



Hatchery Hill Clinic - (608) 661-7200

You may return to work and most activities on the same day. Vigorous upper arm movement, such as aerobics, should be avoided for 24 hours.

Final pathology results will be available approximately 48 hours after the procedure. The physician will discuss a specific plan for how and when to contact you with results.