

# Needle Localization

## Appointment Information

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## About

A needle localization exam of the breast is done when another breast exam shows breast lumps or abnormalities. A needle localization of the breast is a pre-surgical procedure in which a wire is inserted via a hollow needle into the breast to localize (pinpoint) either a mass or calcifications which may not be felt on physical examination.

During a needle localization exam of the breasts, imaging is used to place a needle next to an abnormal area in the breast. Then, in the operating room, the surgeon uses the wire as a guide and can remove both the abnormal area and the wire.

The radiologist will numb the area of your breast with a local anesthetic and insert a localization needle into your breast, pointing toward the spot that needs to be removed. The radiologist will then take more images to confirm the position of the needle and withdraw the needle leaving the wire behind. Two final images of the breasts will be taken to confirm the placement of the wire.

A needle localization of the breast typically takes thirty minutes to perform before a patient goes to surgery.

## Preparations

Please bring any outside CDs required for the procedure to SMIL 2-3 days prior to the day of your appointment.

If you are taking Coumadin, aspirin or ibuprofen type products such as Advil, Motrin or Aleve or other anti-inflammatory medications, it is important that these be discontinued 5 to 7 days prior to your procedure (3 to 5 days for Coumadin). Check with your prescribing physician to make sure that this is possible.

Wear comfortable clothing. Only clothing above the waist will need to be removed and a gown or robe are provided.

Prior to the procedure you will meet with a SMIL staff member who will review the procedure, answer any questions and verify your consent.

Should you have any questions, concerns, or need copies of your images you may contact us at 480.425.5000. If someone else is picking up your images you will need to sign a medical release form.



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