

Stereotactic Breast Biopsy

Appointment Information

Date: _____ Time: _____ Location: _____

Address: _____

Notes: _____

About

Stereotactic biopsy is a minimally invasive procedure using a fine needle to obtain a small sample of breast tissue which is then sent for pathology evaluation. The procedure is performed by an MD who is a board certified Radiologist specializing in Breast Imaging.

You will be asked to lie on your stomach on a special biopsy table with your breast positioned through an opening in the table. A specialized mammogram unit is located beneath the table. Your breast will be gently compressed (similar to a mammogram) and you will be asked to remain still throughout the procedure.

Mammogram images are taken to identify the area to be biopsied. They are called 'stereo images' because they are taken from two different angles. With the aid of the computer, the exact positioning for the biopsy needle is determined.

Your breast is cleansed with an antimicrobial solution and numbed with a local anesthetic. You may feel pressure during the biopsy.

The biopsy needle quickly acquires tissue samples and in some instances a small clip may be deployed to mark the area that has been biopsied, followed by a two view mammogram for documentation.

After the biopsy pressure is applied to the site for several minutes to prevent bleeding. The site will be dressed with steri strips and gauze and you will be given an ice pack to use at home. Written post-procedure instructions will be provided to you. Most people resume normal activities 24 hrs after the procedure.

A report will be sent to your referring physician and you should receive your results in several days.

Preparations

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

A nurse will contact you in advance of the biopsy to explain the procedure and obtain a brief medical history and answer any questions that you may have.

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. It is preferable to wear a bra to the appointment. Some prefer to wear it to bed the first night for added comfort and support.

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.