



Excisional Biopsy

Procedure Scheduled:

Patient Name _____

Procedure Date _____ Time _____ Facility _____

Facility Address _____ Telephone _____

Physician _____

Definition of Terms:

Anesthetic— Medication that produces loss of sensation for pain; may be local or general.

Antiseptic— An agent to remove bacteria and other microorganisms; to disinfect.

Biopsy— The removal of tissue in order to study the makeup of cells.

Benign— Not cancerous; no threat to the body.

Excisional— Process of cutting out of the body.

Hematoma— An accumulation of blood under the tissues from bleeding.

Malignant— Cancerous; a threat to the body.

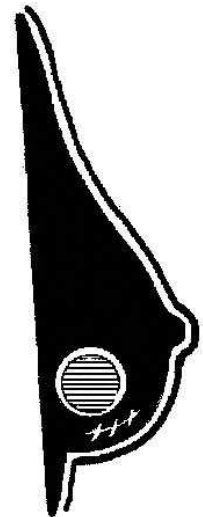
Pathology— The study of disease process and consequences.

Procedure:

If a physician can feel a suspicious lump, it may be surgically removed from the body with an excisional biopsy. The procedure is performed in an operating room on an out-patient basis.

Prior to Your Biopsy:

- Several days prior to the biopsy, you will be required to have lab work performed according to your doctor's orders.
- An assessment and medical history will be taken to determine any conditions such as allergies or previous surgeries.
- Remember to write down the names of any prescription medications or herbal medications that you take on a regular basis for this assessment interview.



Day of Biopsy:

- You will report to the surgical unit.
- Local anesthetic (in the breast only) or general anesthetic (put to sleep) will be administered.
- The breast will be cleansed with an antiseptic cleanser to destroy bacteria on the skin.
- The surgeon will cut through the skin to the lump and remove the entire lump and sometimes an area of tissue around the lump referred to as the margins.
- Several stitches will close the incision area.
- You will be taken to the recovery area where you will be monitored until your vital signs are normal, you are awake, and are experiencing no vomiting, bleeding, or excessive pain.
- A small bandage will cover the incision.
- You will be given discharge instructions on how to care for the wound.
- You will then be discharged.
- Ask your healthcare provider when you may get the incision area wet and when you can return to normal activities.
- A return appointment will be made with your physician to have your stitches removed and to see how the wound is healing.

After Your Biopsy:

- There is potential for infection after an excisional biopsy because of the cut through the skin. Follow the instructions provided by your physician on how to care for the wound and how to change the bandage.
- Be sure to keep the bandage dry.
- The area may be slightly sore for several days.
- You may have a mild, aching pain that can be controlled with over-the-counter medications.
- You may have a blood-tinged drainage from fluid in the biopsy cavity; this is normal.
- Discoloration of the breast (bluish turning to yellowish tones) may occur.

Contact Healthcare Provider:

- If you have fever over 100.5° F.
- If you have increasing redness around incision site.
- If pain increases in the area and is not controlled by over-the-counter pain medication.
- If you have bright red bleeding from the site.

Telephone number to call during office hours: _____

Telephone number to call after office hours: _____

Procedure Results:

The biopsy tissue will be sent to the pathology lab and the results, stating whether the tissue was benign (not cancerous) or malignant (cancerous) will be made available to your physician. Ask when and how you will be informed of the results of the biopsy report.

Your results/report will be available: _____

You will receive the results/report from: _____

If you have not received your results/report by the date indicated, please call the office.

Things You Need to Know After A Breast Biopsy:

- Yes No A very small surgical marker or clip was placed at the site of your biopsy before the biopsy instrument was removed from your breast. This will be used to help identify the biopsied area on future mammograms or diagnostic studies. It will cause no future pain or disfigurement.
- Yes No A follow-up mammogram will be performed in 6 months to evaluate the breast and biopsied site.
- Yes No Ice pack: Fill a small Ziploc plastic bag with ice cube or a small bag of frozen peas and place over the biopsy site for 20 to 30 minutes to reduce swelling and discomfort. Repeat the process until _____

Special Instructions:
