



## Stereotactic Breast 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.

**Aspiration**— Removal of fluid or cells by suction.

**Cyst**— A fluid-filled sac.

**Biopsy**— The removal of body tissues for study of how cells are made up.

**Benign**— Not cancerous; no threat to the body.

**Hematoma**— An accumulation of blood under the skin from a ruptured vessel.

**Malignant**— Cancerous; a threat to the body.

**Mammogram**— X-ray pictures of breasts using special mammography equipment.

**Pathology**— The study of disease processes and consequences.

### Procedure:

If a suspicious area that cannot be felt or is very small is seen on a mammogram, stereotactic breast biopsy may be used to biopsy the area. This biopsy procedure is performed using a prone mammography table or an add-on unit to the mammography machine, a biopsy needle and the guidance of a computer. This test, an alternative to surgical biopsy, is done without the discomfort, risk, disfigurement or the expense of surgery. The procedure takes approximately 45 minutes to perform. Most patients can return to non-strenuous activities within a few hours. Strenuous activities, or activities which involve lifting or pulling with the upper body should be avoided for 24 hours.

### Day of Procedure:

- Your breast will be compressed with a special mammography machine while X-ray pictures are taken at angles.
- After the suspicious area has been identified, the radiologist enters information into a computer that calculates where the needle should be injected.
- The area of the breast to be biopsied is deadened with a local anesthetic.

- The radiologist moves the biopsy needle into position and, at a rapid rate of speed, removes a sample of the suspicious tissue.
- Because stereotactic biopsy uses a needle, damage to nearby tissue is minimal—unlike surgery that may cause scarring to the breast.
- When the biopsy is completed, a small bandage or steri-strips will be placed over the biopsy site.
- The biopsy sample will be sent to the pathology lab for evaluation.

### After Your Procedure:

- Infection is rare with stereotactic biopsy.
- There is a small possibility a hematoma (accumulation of blood under the skin) may develop. If this occurs, inform your physician so this information can be recorded in your medical records. This area may show up on future mammography as a change in your breast tissues.
- You may shower the same day you have the biopsy.
- Avoid strenuous activities for 24 hours.

### Contact Healthcare Provider If:

- Any pain is sudden or severe
- Bleeding soaks through your bandage
- Appearance of a hard lump at the biopsy area (caused from internal bleeding)
- Signs of infection at biopsy site, such as fever over 100.5° F, redness of biopsy area or a colored drainage (infection is rare)

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone number to call during office hours:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone number to call after office hours:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Procedure Results:

The pathologist will send the referring physician a report stating if the biopsy was malignant or benign. Consult your physician regarding how and when you can expect to receive the biopsy results.

**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.

**Special Instructions:**

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