



Tampa Bay Breast Care Specialists, LLC

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Pre-Appointment Instructions

What to bring:

Bring your latest mammograms and ultrasounds, if applicable, along with the xray films. Patients will need to call the facility where you had your mammograms and/or ultrasounds and request them to be ready for pick up. Most facilities require at least a 48 hour advance notice.

What to expect:

For those patients with palpable breast lumps, a minor biopsy may be offered at the initial visit. This is done under a local anesthetic. Patients do not need to have a driver, but we encourage patients to bring a loved one or a friend for support.

For those patients being referred for an abnormal mammogram showing calcifications or other non-palpable abnormalities, Dr. Cox will review the necessary surgical options if these calcifications or abnormalities in deed need further evaluation. He must have the outside films and reports to make a complete evaluation.

For those patient's being referred for a new diagnosis of breast cancer, we will work together to help our patients organize the road to recovery. Surgical intervention is the initial step to the fight against breast cancer. Our patients may require radiation therapy and/or chemotherapy.

We will refer our patients on to a radiation oncologist as well as a medical oncologist once we have all the necessary tools for their consultations and evaluations.

Authorization of Procedures and Billing

When we schedule your surgery, we will call your insurance company to verify coverage and get authorization. If we have any issue obtaining authorization, we will call you immediately. If you decide to pay out of pocket or if your insurance does not cover, our billing department will give you an estimation of how much your procedure will cost, as well as make payment arrangements. We are only responsible for the billing of the surgery our surgeon performs, so keep in mind that depending on the complexity of your situation, you may receive bills from the surgical facility where the surgery takes place, the radiologist, and the pathologist, just to name a few.

You should contact our office if you experience any of the following:

- You have a fever over 101.5 during the first week after surgery.
- Your wound feels tight and you are experiencing extreme pain.
- Your breast is extremely bruised other than around the surgical site.
- You are experiencing excessive nausea and/or vomiting.
- Blood continues to leak from your dressing. While you are trying to contact us, use a towel to hold firm pressure on your wound.

If your situation becomes a life-threatening or emergency situation, please call 911 or go straight to the Emergency Room. Please notify us so we may assist you and care for your needs.