



Tampa Bay Breast Care Specialists

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Ultrasound Guided Breast Core Biopsy

A breast core biopsy is normally done in the office or at a Radiology center. An ultrasound machine is used to locate the questionable mass and a hollow needle cores little samples of the mass to be sent to pathology. Here is some general information about the procedure and what to expect.

Preparing for the procedure:

- Local anesthetic will be used to numb the area being biopsied.
- The procedure normally lasts between 10-30 minutes.
- 1-3 samples will be taken from the breast mass in questions to be sent for testing.

After the procedure:

- You should wear a comfortable bra or sports bra for two weeks after your procedure.
- We will call you with your results. Results usually take between 3-5 business days.
- You should be able to drive and return to normal activity, but you cannot lift anything over 5 pounds for the next 72 hours.

About your wound:

- You will be given a sheet on how to care for your incision.
- It is normal to have a small amount of bleeding, swelling, and bruising around the incision site.
- The steri-strip directly underneath the bandage needs to stay on for at least 48 hours. You can remove this strip in the shower so you do not pull off the scab.
- Make sure to start taking Tylenol as soon as possible after the procedure so it will take affect before the local anesthetic wears off so you will not feel as sore.
- Do not take any Ibuprofen, Advil, Aleve, Excedrin, or Aspirin. These are blood thinners and will delay the clotting of your incision.

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.

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