

STEREOTACTIC CORE BIOPSY

WHAT IS A STEREOTACTIC CORE BIOPSY?

A biopsy is a test to take small samples of tissue of the breast. These are sent to the laboratory to be analysed. The biopsy is performed by an Advanced Practitioner Radiographer. A radiographer will also assist in the procedure.

WHO NEEDS A STEREOTACTIC CORE BIOPSY?

If you have a problem in your breast that shows on your mammogram, but the doctor cannot feel it on examination, we can use the x-ray machine to direct us to the area.

ARE THERE RISKS IN HAVING A CORE BIOPSY?

It should be stressed that the answer is generally no. Occasionally, there may be some bleeding inside the breast and a haematoma (bruise or swelling) will form. Obviously care has to be taken that no infection occurs.

As radiation is used to produce the picture the patient receives a small dose to the breast. All X-ray procedures involve exposure to radiation in varying amounts. We are all exposed to small amounts of radiation from the atmosphere throughout our lives. Any amount of diagnostic radiation can add slightly to the normal risk of developing cancer. In all X-ray examinations, the amount of radiation is kept to the minimum necessary. Unfortunately, one in three of us are liable to develop a cancer at some stage during our lives, so the added risk from this test is very small indeed. The risk has to be balanced against the possibility of missing a serious disorder from by not having the test. The benefit of the examination is that the doctor is able to diagnose quickly and accurately.

ARE THERE ANY ALTERNATIVES?

Your doctor has decided that this is the appropriate examination to investigate your condition. Any alternatives should have already been discussed with you.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

On the day please do not use any deodorants or talcum powder because these can show up on your films.

You need to tell us if you are taking anticoagulants/antiplatelets (e.g. Warfarin). We may have to check your INR prior to the procedure. Please tell us as soon as you receive the appointment.



WHAT WILL HAPPEN ON THE DAY?

Our Advanced Practitioner will talk to you and explain what is going to happen. You will be asked to sign a consent form. This lets us know that you understand what is involved in the test and that you agree to it. You need to keep very still during the test.

You will be made comfortable either sitting up or lying down and a small area of your breast will be compressed, similar to when you had your mammogram. An x-ray will be taken to check that we are in the right place. The area will be cleaned and the doctor will inject some local anaesthetic. This will make the area numb so you do not have any pain. Samples of your breast tissue will be taken with a special needle

Your stay in the department will be approximately 40 minutes to 1 hour.

A small dressing is placed over the area where the biopsy was taken. You need to keep this dressing dry for 3 days.

WILL THE BIOPSY HURT?

You will feel some stinging as the local anaesthetic goes in, but the area soon goes numb. During the actual biopsy, you will probably only notice the 'clicking' of the biopsy device. If there is a haematoma (bruising and a swelling) forms afterwards, this may be uncomfortable for a day or two.

WHEN WILL I RECEIVE MY RESULTS

The laboratory will take 7 – 10 days to process and analyse the specimens. Their report will then be sent to your consultant. His secretary will send you a clinic appointment so your consultant can discuss the results with you.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

If you need to contact us or ask any questions, you can ring the department between **9am – 5pm on 0161 922-6305**. An experienced radiographer will be able to answer any questions. You may also ask any of the staff on the day or use the space below to write down any questions you may have and bring the form with you.



SOURCE

In compiling this information leaflet, a number of recognised professional and accredited good practice guidelines have been used.

If you have a visual impairment this leaflet can be made available in bigger print or on audiotape. If you require either of these options please contact the Patient Information Centre on 0161 922 5332

Language, Interpretation and Patient Support Service (LIPS):

If you require an interpreter to assist your appointment, please ask an appropriate family member to contact our central booking office between **Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm** on **0161 922 6991** to arrange this for you.

語言翻譯及病者支持服務 (LIPS)

如果閣下需要翻譯員在您的預約當日幫助您的話 請找一名合適的家庭成員 **0161 922 6991** 聯絡本中

央預約辦事處來您您安排 我們的辦公時間是星期一至星期五 上午 8 時至下午 5 時

Językowo Tłumaczeniowa Usługa Pomocy dla Pacjenta (Language, Interpretation and Patient Support Service LIPS):

Jeśli potrzebujesz pomocy tłumacza w trakcie swojej wizyty, proszę poprosić odpowiedniego członka rodziny o skontaktowanie się z Centralnym Biurem Zamówień (*Central Booking Office*), w celu zorganizowania tłumacza pomiędzy poniedziałkiem a piątkiem w godzinach od **08:00 - 17:00** pod numerem **0161 922 6991**.

لینگویج، انٹرپریٹیشن اینڈ پیسینٹ سپورٹ سروس (Lips)

اگر آپ کو اپنی اپائنٹمنٹ کے لئے مترجم کی مدد کی ضرورت ہو تو براہ مہربانی اپنے خاندان کے کسی موزوں فرد سے کہیں کہ وہ ہمارے سنٹرل بنگ آفس سے پیر سے جمعہ 8.00 بجے صبح سے 5.00 بجے شام کے دوران 0161 922 6991 پر فون کر کے اس کا بندوبست کریں۔

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