

Patient Information Sheet – Ultrasound Guided Breast Biopsy

A biopsy is a sampling of cells or tissue from a suspicious area. Using ultrasound, a small needle is inserted to remove a sample of cells. These cells will be examined under a microscope. Pathology results may take approximately 5-7 days.

To ensure continuity of care for you we will send a referral to our local surgeon, Dr. T. Morell. Dr. Morell's office will be contacting you to make an appointment to discuss the results of the biopsy and discuss future care. If you have not been contacted by Dr. Morell's office within 7- 10 days, please contact your primary care provider.

Your health care provider(s) will be notified of the results of your test and that a referral has been made to Dr. Morell.

If you would like another surgeon (breast/general surgeon) to receive the referral, instead of Dr. Morell, please inform X-ray staff before you leave.

Preparation

- Approximately one week before your scheduled procedure, speak to your primary care provider about discontinuing any blood-thinning medications you may be taking. All other medications can be taken as prescribed.
- Remember to bring a comfortable, supportive bra to wear when going home following your biopsy.
- The procedure usually takes approximately 1 hour.

Diet:

- You can eat what you normally eat. For a procedure scheduled in the morning, it is recommended that you eat a light breakfast. For a procedure scheduled in the afternoon, it is recommended that you eat a light lunch.

Procedure:

- To begin the procedure, the Ultrasound Technologist will position you and every effort will be made to ensure you are comfortable.
- The Radiologist will clean your skin and use a tiny needle to inject local anaesthetic. You may feel a slight sting at the injection site. The Radiologist may make a tiny incision and insert the biopsy needle. You will be asked to remain very still during this time. As the biopsy sample is taken, you will hear a "click".
- The Radiologist will remove several samples and when this is completed, a clip may be inserted to mark the biopsy site. Pressure will be applied directly to the biopsy site to reduce any swelling. Small bandages will be applied and should not be removed for 5-7 days. A small ice pack should be applied to the breast to reduce any swelling or discomfort you may experience.

If you have any other questions feel free to call the Diagnostic Imaging Department at
613-267-1500 ext. 4271