

What is a Breast Core Biopsy?

A Breast Core Biopsy is a simple procedure performed by our team of Breast Imaging Specialists. Mammography, Ultrasound or MRI images are used during the biopsy to locate the abnormal appearing area of interest. A small section of the abnormal tissue is removed and taken to the lab to be reviewed by a Pathologist.

The majority of breast biopsies are negative (no signs of cancer). However, if a cancer is found at an early stage, a women's chance for recovery is great.

What should I do to prepare for this test?

- You will get a phone call one or two days before your test to remind you of your appointment date & time. On the day of your appointment, bring a list of your allergies (food, environment & drugs)
- You may eat and drink normally before the test
- You may take all of your prescription medication with sips of water unless instructed otherwise by your doctor
- If you have any questions, call the Mammography Department (see below) where your procedure is booked

What will happen during the test?

- The Technologist and the Radiologist will review the procedure with you and answer any questions you may have
- You will be positioned on your stomach, side or sitting. Your breast will be compressed and held still for the procedure
- X-ray images will be taken to locate the abnormality
- The area to be sampled will be cleaned and numbed with local anesthetic injected into the skin and breast tissue
- A biopsy needle will be inserted into the breast by the radiologist. X-rays will be taken to make sure the needle is in the correct area
- Once the needle is in position, several small samples of breast tissue are removed using the biopsy needle
- As samples are taken, you may hear a suction sound from the biopsy instrument
- A small clip may be placed in the breast after the breast biopsy to mark the area of concern. This will help direct the surgeon if further surgery is necessary

What will happen after the Test?

- When the biopsy is done, a bandage will be applied to your breast
- You will be asked to remain in the department for 30 minutes
- You may experience some soreness after the procedure
- You will be given post procedure instructions
- The tissue samples that have been removed will be sent to your doctor
- Make an appointment with your doctor in 7-10 days to review your results

Lakeridge Health Oshawa
Breast Assessment Center
Telephone (905) 576-8711 ext. 33923
Office Hours 8am-4pm

Lakeridge Health Ajax Pickering
Mammography Department
Telephone (905) 683-2320 ext. 11434
Office Hours 7am-3pm