

ON THE DAY OF YOUR APPOINTMENT



Please report to the Women's Health Department 15 minutes prior to your appointment time.

**Women's Health, Level 0
Juravinski Innovation Tower
Charlton Campus**



Don't forget to allow time for parking.



If you have any questions or need to cancel your appointment please call:

905-522-1155
ext. 35281

Monday-Friday
8:00 AM – 3:30 PM

QUESTIONS:

Diagnostic Imaging Department

Getting Ready for a

Stereotactic Breast Core Biopsy

Questions, Answers
and Preparation
Information for Patients

Why do I need a Breast Core Biopsy?

Your mammogram has shown an area in your breast that your doctor would like examined more closely.

To do this, the Radiologist (x-ray doctor) will remove several small samples of tissue from your breast with a needle. The samples will be sent to the laboratory for results

How do I prepare for a Breast Core Biopsy?

This is an out-patient procedure done in the Radiology Department.

The day of your breast core biopsy, please: Do not use any creams, oils, talcum, baby powder or deodorant on your underarm area or breast. They may show up on the x-rays.

If you are on blood thinners, stop taking your pills before the test.

COUMADIN: Stop 5 days before the test.

HEPARIN: Stop 3 days before the test.

ASPIRIN: Stop 5 days before the test.

You can start taking them again later in the day after the test is finished. Aspirin may be resumed 24 hours later.

Who does the Examination?

This procedure is done by a radiologist (x-ray doctor) and a technologist.

What happens during the test?

You will be asked to change from the waist up and put on a hospital gown. You will be lying on your stomach during the procedure on a specially designed table. The table has an opening through which the breast to be examined will be positioned. The mammography technologist will then position the breast and two plates will hold the breast in place. Several x-rays will be taken in this position to find the area that needs to be seen more closely. The radiologist will come in and give you freezing in the breast before any biopsies are taken.

A needle will take several tissue samples for the area of interest and these will be sent to the laboratory for results. Several x-rays will be taken before and after the placement of the needle.

What happens after the Breast Core Biopsy

When the test is over, a bandage will be placed on the breast and we will keep you here, with an ice pack on the site, for about 20 minutes. As long as you are feeling well, you can then go home.

The results of the biopsy will be sent from the laboratory to your doctor in about one week's time. If you do not already have a follow-up appointment scheduled with the doctor who sent you, you should call their office to find out if they would like you to return.

This procedure is fairly lengthy, so you should expect to be in the department for up to two hours. It is preferable that you eat before this procedure.

QUESTIONS:
