

# Ultrasound Guided Core Biopsy

Radiology department



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## Why do I need this done?

Your mammogram or ultrasound has highlighted an area in your breast which needs further investigation (as this area cannot be felt, more specialist procedures are necessary). If abnormal cells are found, an operation is usually necessary. However, if only normal cells or tissue are found, an operation may be avoided.

### **Before this procedure, please tell the doctor if you are:**

- Allergic to local anaesthetic or,
- On treatment with aspirin or warfarin

## What is a core biopsy?

Using a needle we take a small sample of tissue from your breast. This is then examined by a pathologist, who will be able to diagnose the problem.

## How is it done?

We will ask you to lie on a couch in a comfortable position, as you did for your ultrasound examination. Using ultrasound, we identify the area of your breast concerning us and we inject a local anaesthetic into the area of your breast to numb the surrounding skin and tissue.

We make a small cut in the skin and insert a special biopsy needle. We will then take several samples of tissue. The needle makes a loud clicking noise but you should feel no pain.

It is very important that you keep still during the procedure. When we withdraw the needle from the breast, we will press on the area for a short time. Tiny adhesive strips (called steristrips) are then placed on the wound and covered with a small dressing.

## What happens after the procedure?

You may feel some discomfort. If so, you can take some simple painkillers, eg. paracetamol but you should avoid aspirin or aspirin-based products.

You may notice some bruising but usually this does not cause a problem.

## What about the dressing?

Keep all the dressings on for three to four days.

## When will I get my results?

Before you leave the hospital you will need to make an appointment at the Breast Clinic for the following week to get your results.

Please do not hesitate to ask any questions, either before, during or after the examination.

If you have any questions or require further information or advice, contact:

**If you would like this leaflet in another format or in a different language, please ask a member of staff.**

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