

# ULTRASOUND- GUIDED BREAST BIOPSY

Smithfield Imaging	919-938-7190
Clayton Imaging	919-585-8450
Scheduling	919-938-7449

## WHAT IS A GUIDED BREAST BIOPSY?

A breast biopsy is performed to remove some cells—either surgically or through a less invasive procedure involving a hollow needle— from a suspicious area in the breast and examine them under a microscope to determine a diagnosis. In ultrasound-guided breast biopsy, ultrasound imaging is used to help guide the radiologist's instruments to the site of the abnormal growth.

Ultrasound guidance is used in four biopsy procedures:

- Fine needle aspiration (FNA), which uses a very small needle to extract fluid or cells from the abnormal area.
- Core needle (CN) which uses a large hollow needle to remove one sample of breast tissue per insertion.
- Vacuum-assisted device (VAD) which uses a vacuum powered instrument to collect multiple tissue samples during one needle insertion.
- Wire localization, in which a guide wire is placed into the suspicious area to help the surgeon locate the lesion for surgical biopsy.

## HOW IT WORKS

Image-guided, minimally invasive procedures such as ultrasound-guided breast biopsy are most often performed by a specially trained radiologist. A local anesthetic will be injected into the breast to numb it. Pressing the transducer to the breast, the sonographer or radiologist will locate the lesion. A very small nick is made in the skin at the site where the biopsy needle is to be inserted. The radiologist, monitoring the lesion site with the ultrasound probe, will insert the needle and advance it directly into the mass. Please inform the technologist if you are pregnant. Many imaging tests are not preformed during pregnancy.

After this sampling, the needle will be removed. If a surgical biopsy is being performed, a wire is inserted into the suspicious area as a guide for the surgeon. A small marker may be placed at the site so that it can be located in the future if necessary. Once the biopsy is complete, pressure will be applied to stop any bleeding and the opening in the skin is covered with a dressing. No sutures are needed. A mammogram may be performed to confirm that the marker is in the proper position.

This procedure is usually completed within an hour.

## HOW TO PREPARE

Follow these guidelines:

- You should not wear deodorant, powder, lotion or perfume under your arms or on your breasts on the day of the exam.
- Please bring your current home medications or a list of your medications with you the day of the test.
- Do not take any blood thinners for 5 days prior to the exam.
- Depending on the part of your body getting the ultrasound, you may be asked to remove some or all of your clothes and change into a hospital gown
- Remove jewelry, removable dental hardware, eye glasses, and any metal objects or clothing that might interfere with the images.

If you are scheduled for surgery the same day as your exam, you will be given additional instructions from the surgical department.

## RESULTS

A radiologist will review your images and send a report to your doctor who ordered the test in 48 hours. You'll get a call from your doctor's office to discuss the results and next steps. To check your results in our secure, online patient portal, My UNC Chart, visit [www.myuncchart.org](http://www.myuncchart.org).