



What is Ultrasound-Guided Breast Biopsy?

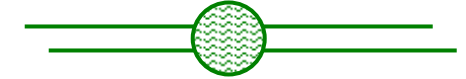
- Ultrasound is an excellent way to evaluate breast abnormalities detected by mammography, the patient, or her doctor. In some cases, however, it is not possible to tell from the imaging studies alone whether an abnormality is benign or cancerous. In these cases, ultrasound-guided breast biopsy is a highly accurate and minimally invasive way to provide the answer.
- The procedure prevents the need to remove tissue surgically, and also eliminates the radiation exposure that comes from using x-rays to locate a mass.



Your Imaging Specialists at:

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2925 Ryan Dr. SE
Salem, OR 97301

503-399-1262
fax: 503-371-0777



Ultrasound-Guided Breast Biopsy



Patient Name:

Appointment Date:

Check-in Time:

Appointment Time:

Please take a few minutes to read this brochure prior to your appointment.



YOUR BIOPSY AT A GLANCE!



How is the biopsy performed?

- ◆ After placing an ultrasound probe over the site of the breast lump and using local anesthesia, the radiologist guides a biopsy needle directly into the mass. Tissue specimens are then taken using an automatic spring loaded device.

How should I prepare for the procedure?

- ◆ Ultrasound-guided breast biopsy is minimally invasive but there is a risk of bleeding whenever the skin is penetrated. For this reason, if you are taking aspirin or a blood thinner, your physician may advise you to stop three days before the procedure.
- ◆ Although unnecessary in most cases, you are welcome to have a friend or relative present to drive you home afterwards.

Benefits vs. risks?

Benefits:

- ◆ Ultrasound-guided breast biopsy reliably provides tissue samples that can show whether a breast lump is benign or malignant.
- ◆ Ultrasound-guided core biopsy takes much less time than surgical biopsy, causes less tissue damage, and is far less costly.
- ◆ Compared to x-ray or stereotactically guided breast biopsy, the ultrasound method is faster and avoids the need for x-ray exposure. With ultrasound, it is possible to follow the motion of the biopsy needle throughout the procedure.
- ◆ Ultrasound-guided breast biopsy is able to evaluate lumps under the arm or near the chest wall, which are hard to access by the mammography-guided method.
- ◆ Ultrasound-guided biopsy is somewhat less expensive than the mammography guided method.

Risks:

- ◆ There is a risk of bleeding and formation of a hematoma, a collection of blood at the biopsy site. The risk, however, appears to be less than 1 percent of patients.
- ◆ An occasional patient has significant discomfort, which can be readily controlled by non-prescription pain medication.
- ◆ Infection can occur whenever the skin is penetrated, but the chance of infection requiring antibiotic therapy is less than one in 1,000.
- ◆ Doing a biopsy of tissue deep in the breast carries a slight risk that the needle will pass through the chest wall, allowing air around the lung that could collapse a lung. This is a rare occurrence.

What are the limitations of Ultrasound-Guided Breast Biopsy?

- ◆ Like x-ray-guided breast biopsy, ultrasound-guided biopsy rarely will miss a lesion or underestimate the extent of disease. If the diagnosis remains uncertain after a technically successful procedure, surgical biopsy may be necessary.
- ◆ The ultrasound-guided method cannot be used unless the mass can be seen on an ultrasound exam. Small lesions may be difficult to target accurately by ultrasound-guided core biopsy.

Please call us at Salem Radiology, Ultrasound department, if you:

- ◆ are allergic to latex or lidocaine (local anesthetic).
- ◆ are currently taking prescription anti-coagulation medications such as Coumadin, Heparin or Teclid or have bleeding problems
- ◆ have special needs we should be aware of.
- ◆ **have any other questions or concerns.**

503-399-1262

