



# Guide Wire Biopsy

## Information for Patients

### Introduction

This leaflet has been written for patients who have an area of breast tissue that is too small to be felt, but that needs to be removed to establish diagnosis. It has been prepared to give you greater understanding of the procedure you are about to undergo. It may not answer all your questions so if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to ask your nurse or doctor.

### First step

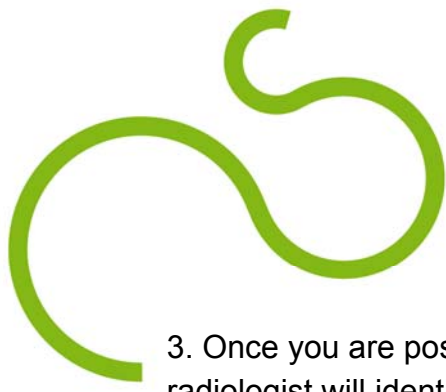
The first step of the procedure will be performed in the X-ray department. As the area of tissue is small a wire will be inserted into your breast. This wire helps the surgeon to locate and remove the correct area. It takes about 30-45 minutes to ensure the wire is in the correct position. The procedure will be performed using mammogram or ultrasound.

Ideally you should wear a front opening top and a pair of trousers. In order that the procedure is not too painful for you, you will be given some local anaesthetic by the radiologist. A nurse, radiographer and radiologist will be with you throughout the procedure.

You will be having a general anaesthetic after this procedure to remove the lump and the wire. This will involve having a cut in your breast, your surgeon will discuss where and how big and where the cut will be.

### THE PROCEDURE BY USE OF MAMMOGRAPHY

1. You will be set in front of the X-ray machine and will be positioned so that you are sitting upright, and are relatively comfortable.
2. The breast will be compressed firmly enough to ensure that it does not slip from under the plate (but not as firmly as when you had the original film taken). The skin will be marked so that we can note if the wire has moved. If there is a movement we have to start again.



3. Once you are positioned a check film is taken and if the position is correct the radiologist will identify the area.
4. The skin will be cleaned with some cold antiseptic.
5. Local anaesthetic is injected into the area - this may sting initially but will soon go numb.
6. A needle with a wire inside will be inserted through the numbed area to the correct depth.
7. Two films will then be taken, the needle removed and the wire left in place.
8. Two films will be taken of the wire for the surgeon and the wire strapped to the skin.
9. Whilst you are asleep, the specimen with the wire attached will be returned to the X-ray department to be X-rayed again to ensure that all of the correct area has been removed.

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

If the procedure is being performed under Ultrasound control, the needle and wire are inserted whilst you are lying down and therefore, please ignore numbers 1 - 3 above.

### **PRE-OPERATIVE ASSESSMENT**

You will receive a letter from the admissions department inviting you to attend a pre-operative assessment with the Breast Care Nurse and Surgical House Officer. The purpose of this visit is to complete any relevant paperwork, to weigh you, take your blood pressure, take a blood test and any other necessary tests such as E.C.G and/or Chest x-ray. There will also be opportunities for you to ask questions.

**IMPORTANT: PLEASE BRING ANY TABLETS THAT YOU HAVE BEEN TAKING OR ARE TAKING WITH YOU.**



## COMING INTO HOSPITAL

You will receive a letter from the Admissions Department with an intended admission date and details. You will be admitted either on the day of surgery or the day before. You will normally be in hospital for approximately 2-3 days.

**VISITING HOURS ARE 2PM UNTIL 8PM.**

## WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

Please bring nightclothes, (pyjamas may be easier for you) dressing gown, slippers, and wash bag. Please wear cotton pants for the day of surgery. Please do not bring jewellery, credit cards or large amounts of money. Some loose change may be useful for the telephone and magazines and patient-line service etc.

## WHAT TO EXPECT BEFORE YOUR OPERATION

On the day of surgery you will be visited by a member of the Breast Team who will complete your consent form with you and also mark the operation site with a pen. You will be taken to theatre (accompanied by a nurse) on a bed or trolley to the Anaesthetic Room. A small needle will be placed into your hand/arm and once the anaesthetic has been given you will fall asleep very quickly.

You will wake in the recovery room where you may be given some oxygen via a mask and painkillers if necessary. You will be monitored closely until you are ready to be returned to the Ward.

## WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER YOUR OPERATION

You may have a large padded dressing over your breast following your operation. This is normally removed after 24 hours, but will be discussed with you by your nurse on the day. Underneath this large dressing is a smaller one that should be left in place and kept dry until you are seen in the out-patient's department. You will also be supplied with a spare dressing.

It is important that you wear a well supporting bra as this will help to support your wound whilst it is healing - and ideally it should be worn day and night until you are seen in out-patients.



## **BATHING**

You may bath or shower as normal the next day providing you can keep the dressing dry.

## **DRIVING**

It is advised that you do not drive until you have been seen in out-patients, as this can 'pull' the wound.

## **FOLLOW UP**

You will be given an out-patient's appointment for 7 - 10 days after your operation. Please bring a friend or relative with you. The result of your biopsy will be given to you at this appointment.

Your stitches will usually be dissolvable or will be taken out in clinic.





## Languages/ Alternative Formats

Please ask if you require this information in other languages, large print or audio format. Please contact: 01895 279973

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தயவுசெய்து, வேற்று மொழிகளில் இத் தகவல்கள், கட்டுமானம் தேவையெனில், கேளுங்கள்.! தயவுசெய்து 01895 279973 இலக்கத்துடன் தொடர்பு கொள்ளுங்கள்.!

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਵਿਸ਼ੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ, ਵੱਡੀ ਲਿਖਾਈ ਜਾਂ ਦੂਜੀ ਸੂਰਤ ਵਿੱਚ  
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ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Jezeli chcialbys uzyskac te informacje w innym języku lub w duzej czcionce popros  
pracownika oddzialu o kontakt pod numerem telefonu: 01895 279973

各國語言/模式選擇

若你需要以下資料改為其他語言，大寫，或其他模式例如收音式或  
盲人字體的話，請電 01895 279973。

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تتصل على الرقم 01895 279973 أو عبر البريد الإلكتروني

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی دیگر زبان میں، بڑے الفاظ میں یا آڈیو طریقہ سے درکار ہوں تو برائے  
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