



University Hospitals Birmingham
NHS Foundation Trust



UHB Breast Services
Core Cut Biopsy
Procedure

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Core cut biopsy procedure

During your visit to the Breast Clinic today, you were advised that we wished to carry out a procedure called a core cut biopsy. We hope we answered all your immediate questions whilst you were in the clinic, but the following information may help to answer any queries you may have.

The benefits

A core cut biopsy is carried out to help the clinical team make a diagnosis.

The alternatives

Please ask your examining clinician if there is an alternative to this test. Sometimes a fine needle aspiration can be offered but the core biopsy often gives more information about your lesion.

The risks

Please inform the Team if you have any allergies or take any anti-coagulation medication (blood thinning medicines). Following the biopsy procedure, you may experience one or more of the following side-effects:

- Pain/discomfort
- Lump feels bigger
- Bruising
- Bleeding from the puncture site
- Infection

The procedure

This procedure is carried out under local anaesthetic. This is administered by injection and may sting for a few seconds. When the area is numb, a tiny cut (incision) is made in the skin near the lesion. A small biopsy device is used to extract 2 to 5 small pieces of breast tissue for close examination. This device makes a noise rather like a staple gun – not everyone demonstrates the noise first. Several specimens are taken and a firm dressing applied. Your results will be discussed by the Multi-Disciplinary Team and then communicated to you by letter or at an appointment should you require one.

If you have come to the clinic with a lump in your breast you may notice that it feels bigger after the biopsy. This is quite common and may last for up to a fortnight. Some people may experience bruising and some discomfort. We recommend you take a mild painkiller such as paracetamol soon after the procedure as the local anaesthetic is short acting and will wear off after about an hour. Please avoid aspirin as this can make any expected bruising worse.

Marker clip – when the biopsy is complete, a marker clip is sometimes inserted into the lesion. These are approximately 2mm in size and made from titanium. These are used to locate the lesion should we need to remove it

surgically. If no further action is required, this marker clip can remain in place permanently.

If you are at all concerned please contact:

Breast Care Clinical Nurse Specialists Queen

Elizabeth Hospital: **0121 371 4499**

Solihull Hospital: **0121 424 5306**

Notes



How did we do? 😊 😐 😞

If you have recently used our services we'd love to hear about your experience. Please scan the QR code or follow the link to share your feedback to help us improve our services.

Thank you.

www.uhb.nhs.uk/fft



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Breast Service

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