

Stereotactic Breast Biopsy

Breast Biopsy

If your last breast imaging test showed an abnormal area, your health care provider may want to do a stereotactic breast biopsy.

During this procedure, a **radiologist** (the doctor performing the procedure) will take small samples of breast tissue using a special needle. This is called a **biopsy**. The needle is guided to the exact spot within your breast with the help of X-rays and computer images.

Your biopsy appointment will last 60 to 90 minutes. The radiologist or **technologist** (another member of your care team) will explain each step of the process to you.

Before the Biopsy

- If Piper Breast Center® doesn't already have your previous breast imaging exams, have them sent as soon as possible so your biopsy is not delayed.
- You don't need a driver, but you are welcome to have a family member or friend come with you to this appointment.
Note: Only Piper Breast Center® staff are allowed in the procedure room.

During the Biopsy

- You will be asked to change into a hospital gown or robe.
- You will sit in a chair.
- The technologist will position your breast in the mammogram machine.
- The technologist will compress (squeeze) your breast using a special paddle. Your breast will be kept in the same position for the biopsy.
- The technologist will take X-rays of your breast. You may be asked to hold your breath for a short time.
- The technologist will clean your breast with a special solution. The radiologist will use a small needle to numb the biopsy area.
- The radiologist may make a small cut in your skin. Then insert a special needle into your breast. X-rays and computer images will help get the correct biopsy location. You may feel pressure, but it shouldn't be painful.
- You may hear a clicking or buzzing sound. This is the normal sound of the biopsy device.
- The radiologist will use the special needle to take small samples of tissue, each about the size of a cooked grain of rice.
- After enough samples are taken, a small metal clip may be placed into your breast tissue.
 - Once the biopsy is complete, a mammogram will be done to show exactly where the metal clip is in your breast.
- The breast tissue samples will then to the pathology laboratory (lab) for testing.

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After the Biopsy

- It is normal to have light bleeding, bruising, or discomfort at the biopsy site, but this should get better quickly.
- You can continue most of your normal activities. You will be given detailed instructions on what activities are OK.
- It's important to follow any instructions you receive after your biopsy.

Metal Clip

- A small metal clip, about the size of a sesame seed, will be placed in your breast to mark the biopsy area on future breast imaging studies.
- The metal clip is permanent, meaning it doesn't need to be removed. If you need surgery in the area where the metal clip was placed, the surgeon will remove it during surgery.
- There are no special instructions for the metal clip. It's safe for MRI scans, won't trigger airport metal detectors, and isn't considered an "implant device".

When You Will Get the Results of Your Biopsy

A Piper Breast Center® nurse will call you after your biopsy to talk about your results and any follow-up that you need.

In compliance with the 21st Century Cures Act, biopsy results are released automatically to your Allina Health account (MyChart). This means you may see your biopsy results before the Piper Breast Center® nurse.

A Piper Breast Center® nurse will call you as soon as possible to talk about your results and answer any questions.

Piper Breast Center®

If you have any questions or concerns, call Piper Breast Center® between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

❑ Coon Rapids: 763-236-0818

❑ Minneapolis: 612-863-3150

❑ Plymouth: 763-577-7676

❑ St. Paul: 651-241-8300

After business hours, call the radiologist on call.

❑ For Minneapolis and Plymouth, please call Consulting Radiologists, Ltd.: 952-285-3750

❑ For Coon Rapids and St. Paul, please call Midwest Radiology: 651-297-6504