

## The doctor said I need a Stereotactic Biopsy, what does that mean?

The doctor has detected an area either on your mammogram or your ultrasound, or both, that is not completely normal.

During the exam you will lie face down on a specially designed table with your breast placed through an opening in the table top. Your breast will be slightly compressed and held in position throughout the procedure. The mammogram technologist will take several images to localize the area of concern. The radiologist will cleanse the area with Betadine. Next, the radiologist will numb the area with a local anesthetic, usually Lidocaine. (If you have any allergies please inform the technologist). After the area is numb, the radiologist will put a small nick in the skin, which enables them to pass the biopsy needle through the skin more easily. Again, using the machine for guidance, the biopsy needle is placed next to the area of concern. The special biopsy needle makes a clicking or buzzing sound when it is used and small pieces of tissue are obtained from the area. A sterile, metallic marker clip may be placed at the biopsy site and a mammogram picture will be obtained following the procedure to show the location of the clip.



Our Women's Imaging Center has received the designation of Breast Imaging Center of Excellence by the American College of Radiology, an honor given to only a select few of Florida's breast imaging centers. This means they meet nationally accepted standards of care in all ACR- accredited breast imaging modalities.



## Stereotactic Breast Biopsy

### Women's Imaging Center 1901 S.E. 18th Avenue, Building 200

3D Mammography • Breast Ultrasound  
Ultrasound-Guided Breast Biopsy  
Stereotactic Breast Biopsy • MRI-Guided Breast Biopsy  
DEXA (Bone Densitometry) • Pelvic Ultrasound



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WOMEN'S IMAGING CENTER  
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We at RAO are committed to providing you with high quality imaging services using state-of-the-art technology in a caring, comfortable and professional setting. That includes keeping you informed, and the information in this brochure is designed with that in mind.

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## Can I Take My Normal Medications Before the Biopsy?

Most medications can be taken in the usual manner. Please inform us if you are taking blood thinners such as Coumadin or Plavix and we will advise you as to whether you should discontinue them or not. We would ask that you discontinue daily aspirin for 7 days prior to the procedure and not resume for 24 hours after the procedure. If you take hormones, it is best to discontinue until the results of the biopsy are available.

## Are There Any Special Instructions Before the Procedure?

You may eat and drink normally before the exam. Please do not use talcum powder or deodorant before the exam. It is best to wear a two-piece outfit and, if possible, a loose fitting top.

## How Will I Get Results?

The results from the pathologist will be ready within three to five working days. Some specimens take longer than five days due to second opinion consultations. Your referring physician will receive the results of your biopsy and will inform you of the results. There will be an additional bill/charge from the pathologist. If you have any other questions, please call (352) 671-4265 or (352) 671-4260.

## Risks Involved

Most patients only experience mild pressure or discomfort during the procedure. Many patients feel almost nothing at all. If you feel excessive pain or discomfort, please let us know. There will be some bleeding from the biopsy site. Occasionally, this will be more than normal. The risk of infection is small, but is also present. You will also have bruising in the area that may last from a week to ten days.

## Are There Any Special Instructions After the Procedure?

If there is someone available to drive you the day of the procedure it is best, but not mandatory. If you drive yourself, the radiologist may have you wait for a few minutes after the procedure to make sure you are feeling okay. You can expect to have some bruising, and you will also be asked to use an ice pack for one-and-a-half (1 ½) hours off and on. You will be asked to take it easy for about 24 hours.

## Aftercare

1. Place an ice pack inside of your bra on top of the dressing. Keep the ice pack in place for 30 minutes. Leave the biopsy site without an ice pack for 30 minutes, then replace for an additional 30 minutes.
2. If a pressure dressing was used, remove it and the Band-Aid the next morning. Do not shower or bathe until the pressure dressing and Band-Aid have been removed.
3. It is expected that your breast may have visible bruising in the area the procedure was performed.
4. If you experience mild discomfort you may take Tylenol (acetaminophen). DO NOT TAKE ASPIRIN.
5. Do not participate in strenuous activities such as house cleaning, swimming, sports, or aerobics for 24 hours after the procedure.
6. Watch for excessive bleeding, drainage, redness, heat, pain, or fever. If any of these occur, contact your doctor or the Women's Imaging Center at (352) 671-4260 or (352) 671-4265. After hours you may reach the radiologist on call at AdventHealth Ocala, Radiology Department at (352) 351-7289.
7. Sometimes a repeat mammogram in six months is recommended. When you call to schedule your appointment, let us know that it is a follow-up to a core biopsy.