Breast Ultrasound Cyst/Seroma Aspiration

Based on the results of your breast ultrasound, a radiologist doctor has advised a breast ultrasound cyst/seroma aspiration. Ultrasound is used to guide the needle into the right place. A doctor withdraws fluid from the cyst/seroma with a needle.

Before the Cyst/Seroma Aspiration

- A Breast Center nurse reviews all your prescribed and over-the-counter medicines.
- Let us know of any allergies. This includes lidocaine and other medicine, metal, and tape.
- You may eat and drink as normal. There is no need to fast.
- Wear a two-piece outfit. You need to undress from the waist up.
- **Do not** wear talcum powder or deodorant.

During the Cyst/Seroma Aspiration

You need to lie on your back on the exam table. Gel is placed on your breast. The site of concern is found using ultrasound. A picture of this site is shown on a computer.

Your breast is cleaned with an antiseptic. It may feel cool on your skin.

The doctor injects lidocaine into your breast. This is a numbing medicine. You will feel a sting with the injection. You may feel pressure. You should not feel any pain after this is given. Let staff know if you do feel pain.

The doctor uses ultrasound to guide the needle to the right place. A small needle with a syringe attached is placed into the cyst/seroma. Fluid is drawn into the syringe. This fluid is checked by the doctor. If there is a concern, the fluid is sent to the lab. It is looked at under a microscope. If fluid is sent to the lab, results will be ready in 3-4 working days. Your doctor will give you the results.

After the Cyst/Seroma Aspiration

- Pressure is applied to stop any bleeding. The area is covered with a bandage.
- You may resume normal activity.
- You may have mild bruising. This should go away in 5-7 days.

When to Call

Call your doctor or a Breast Center nurse if you notice:

- Excess swelling or bleeding.
- Drainage.
- Redness or warmth at the site.

Who to Call

If you have questions or concerns about your care, please call the number below.

University Hospital
600 Highland Avenue
(608) 916-0500

Eastpark Medical Center
Breast Center Clinic
4621 Eastpark Blvd, Madison, WI
(608) 916-0500

Normal working hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

After hours and weekends, please call (**608) 263-6400**. This will give you the paging operator. Ask to speak to the radiologist on call. Give the operator your name and phone number with the area code. The doctor will call you back.

For medical emergencies, please call **911**.

Additional Instructions

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Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person's health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright © 5/2025 University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#6359.