

MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) Core Needle Breast Biopsy

Based on the results of your last MRI, the doctor (radiologist) suggests a MRI core needle biopsy. In this procedure, we remove breast tissue samples with a core needle. The doctor guides the needle to the correct spot using MRI.

Before the Biopsy

A Breast Center nurse will review all prescribed and over-the-counter medicines. You may need to stop blood thinners before the biopsy. The nurse will discuss this with you. You may take Tylenol® as needed, if you do not have liver disease. The nurse will also review all allergies.

You will be awake for the biopsy. If you would like something to help you relax before the biopsy, please contact your primary doctor in advance. If you take this medicine, you must have someone drive you home. Do not drive or make important decisions until the next day.

On the day of the biopsy, we suggest, but do not require, you to fast for 2 hours before your procedure. If you complete your first MRI without nausea or vomiting, you can eat a light meal prior to the biopsy. If you are diabetic or need to eat, please call MRI Scheduling at **(608) 263- 5655**.

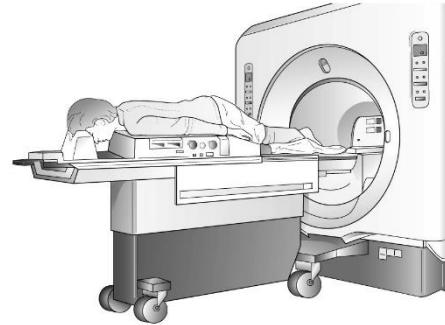
Wear a two-piece outfit. We will ask you to undress from the waist up.

Do **not** wear talcum powder, lotions or deodorant on the breast and underarm area.

Your stay in the MRI area will be about 2 hours. After MRI, you will go to the Breast Center for a mammogram. Your stay in the Breast Center will be about 30-45 minutes.

During the Biopsy

You will dress in a gown and have an IV placed before the MRI.



You will lie face down on the table on a slight incline. We will place your breast into a holder and hold it in place with a grid paddle. You will go feet first into the MRI scanner. We will give contrast into an IV during the scan. You may feel coolness at the IV site and in the arm. The contrast highlights the biopsy site.

We will bring you out of the MRI scanner so the doctor can start the biopsy. We will inject a numbing medicine (Lidocaine) into your breast. You may feel a sting.

The doctor will make a small nick in the skin of your breast and then insert a plastic catheter. You may feel pressure as this needle is placed, but should not feel any pain. If you do feel pain, let the staff know.

We will place you in the scanner again and take images to confirm the biopsy site. We will bring you out of the MRI scanner again and place a biopsy needle through the catheter to take the biopsy samples.

You will hear a whirring sound from the biopsy machine as we take the samples. We will send the samples to the lab.

After the biopsy, we will place a small titanium marker in the breast. This will mark the area of the biopsy. You will have one more scan, so the doctor can view the final biopsy site. If you need a future surgery, this marker will help guide the doctor to the right spot. If you do not need surgery, the clip will stay in place. You can see it on future mammograms. There are no known risks with having the marker. Metal detectors or MRIs will not affect this marker. You will have a final mammogram to look at the placement of the marker.

We will remove the needle from your breast. You may have some light bleeding. We will apply pressure until it stops. We will cover the site with thin strips of tape (Steri-strips) and apply an ice pack for about 10 minutes.

Site Care

- Apply ice for 20-30 minutes at least 3 times the day of the biopsy. Then, use ice as needed to reduce swelling and pain.
- Wear a support bra, like a sports bra, for 24-48 hours.
- You may remove the gauze bandage over the biopsy site the next day. You will have thin strips of tape or Steri-Strips over the site. These will loosen and come off on their own in about 5 days. If they are still in place after 5 days, you may gently peel them off.
- You may shower the next morning. Do not soak in a bath or pool for 48 hours.

Pain

You may have some pain and bruising. It should go away in about a week. You may take Tylenol® for the first 24 hours if you do not have liver problems. You may resume taking aspirin or ibuprofen 24 hours after the biopsy (if no signs of bleeding) or as directed by your doctor.

Blood Thinners

Ask your doctor when you can resume taking Coumadin®, aspirin, or other blood thinners.

Activity

Avoid forceful arm movements and heavy lifting for the first 24 hours. You may resume your normal routine the next day or as directed by your doctor.

Results

Your biopsy results should be ready in 3-4 working days. Your doctor or the Breast Center staff will call you with your results.

When to Call

- Fever over 100.4° F for two readings taken 4 hours apart
- Increased swelling, firmness, redness or warmth
- Pus around the site
- Heavy bleeding from the site

Who to Call

Call your doctor or the Breast Center if you have questions or concerns about your care.

Breast Center at the Clinical Sciences Center
(Highland Avenue)
Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
608-266-6400

After hours, call **608-262-2122**. Ask for the radiologist on call. Give your name and number with the area code. The doctor will call you back.

Breast Center at 1 S Park Medical Center
Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
608-282-8190

After hours, call **608-417-6000**. Ask for the radiologist on call at Meriter/Unity Point Hospital.

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 © 7/2020 University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#6009