



Breast Biopsy

pre biopsy

Please inform us when making your breast biopsy appointment if you are:

Taking anti-coagulants ("blood thinners" such as Coumadin or Heparin). Blood thinners may need to be stopped 3-5 days prior to your biopsy. You will need to contact your prescribing physician and seek instructions regarding this. A blood test may be required.

Taking Aspirin or large doses of vitamin E or fish oil which can affect blood clotting. Do not take any of these for 7 days prior to your biopsy. If you must take over the counter pain medication before the biopsy use Tylenol.

day of biopsy

Refrain from eating solid foods 6 hours before your appointment. Drink only clear liquids the 3 hours before your appointment.

Wash your breasts and underarms thoroughly with soap and water. Wear loose-fitting, two-piece clothes to simplify undressing and dressing. Wear a bra. For your comfort during the biopsy, do not eat or drink two hours before your appointment.

Plan to have someone drive you to and from your appointment since medication may be administered before the procedure.

location

Oregon Advanced Imaging's Navigator's Landing imaging center is located at 881 O'Hare Parkway, in Medford.

The entrance to Navigator's Landing is directly across from the new Medford Airport entrance. Oregon Advanced Imaging is the second building on the right at Navigator's Landing and is the only building with a blue roof.



What is a Breast Biopsy?

A breast biopsy is a simple procedure that involves sampling tissue from an area of concern within the breast. This tissue is taken from any lump or abnormality your doctor feels or sees in a breast image. The images may be from a mammogram, an ultrasound, or MRI. A pathologist will examine the tissue samples taken during your biopsy to determine a diagnosis.

Your physician has recommended and ordered an MRI-guided, vacuum assisted, breast biopsy for you. The procedure will be performed at Oregon Advanced Imaging using the Espree 1.5 tesla MRI – one of the most technologically advanced MRIs in southern Oregon.

Your appointment time may vary depending on location and number of areas to be investigated. Please be prepared to be at OAI for up to three hours.

SIDE-EFFECTS OF PROCEDURE

During the biopsy, most patients experience only mild discomfort. Rarely patients experience significant bleeding or pain during the biopsy. Following the biopsy, bruising is common. Discomfort, tenderness, and bleeding at the biopsy site are all usually mild, but occasionally they are significant. Post-biopsy breast infection and other risks and complications rarely occur.

Complications, from this biopsy or any other type of breast biopsy, can delay subsequent breast surgery. Rarely patients may have an allergic reaction to the local anesthetic.

see other side...

during biopsy

You will lie face down on the MRI scanner with your hands above your head and face resting in a padded head rest. A local anesthetic will be used to numb the area at the small incision site and biopsy area. You will be awake throughout the procedure.

Using the MR images to guide the way, a radiologist will advance the biopsy needle tip to the area in question. You may feel some pressure in your breast and some pain. Samples will be collected and a set of images taken. A tiny clip will be left at the biopsy site to mark it for future reference.

Once the biopsy is complete, the incision is covered with antibiotic cream, steri-strips, and a bandage. No stitches are needed.



post biopsy instructions

1. Place the provided ice pack inside your bra on top of the bandages. Discard pack after it warms up. Continue with additional ice packs as needed until bedtime. Warm packs can be used the next day to assist in relieving any discomfort.
2. Wearing a tight bra or a sports bra for the first 24 hours assists in keeping sufficient compression on the biopsy site. You may also receive additional compression bandages at your biopsy appointment.
3. You may have some discomfort for the first 24-48 hours. If you need to take something for the pain, take Tylenol or Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin, etc.) DO NOT TAKE Aspirin. If you normally take Aspirin you may resume taking it 48 hours after the biopsy.
4. Do not shower or bathe for 24 hours after your procedure.
5. After 24 hours you may carefully remove the outer bandage. Leave the under layer of steri-strips in place for 72 hours (3 days).
6. After 24 hours, and once you have removed the outer bandage, you may bathe with the steri-strips in place. Attempt to keep the steri-strips from getting saturated with water. If the steri-strips come off, use an antibiotic cream (Neosporin) and a Band-aid for 72 hours. Carefully pat dry the biopsy area after bathing.
7. Do not go swimming or in a hot tub until the biopsy area is completely healed.
8. Do not participate in strenuous activities for 24-48 hours (i.e., tennis, aerobics, skiing, weightlifting, etc.).
9. It is normal to have some bleeding. If the bleeding becomes an issue decrease your activity and immediately apply pressure directly to the biopsy, pressing firmly for 10 minutes, or longer if necessary.
10. It is normal to have some bruising, swelling or a scab at the biopsy site. While this can be bothersome it is not abnormal.
11. Watch the biopsy site for the next few days. If redness, swelling, increased tenderness, or fever occur, or if bleeding continues, contact Oregon Advanced Imaging at (541) 608-0350.

Your referring health care provider will receive a report within 72 hours from Rogue Valley Medical Center Pathology Department. Please contact your doctor for your diagnosis.

Your insurance provider will receive bills from Oregon Advanced Imaging, Medford Radiological Group, and the Rogue Valley Medical Center Pathology Department.