

What is Stereotactic Breast Biopsy?

Stereotactic Breast Biopsy was developed as an alternative to the traditional open surgical excision for mammographic abnormalities. Stereotactic Breast Biopsy has proven to be extremely accurate, compared with surgical biopsy. It clearly has more appeal to patients because it minimizes discomfort and scarring, as well as recovery time.

Stereotactic Breast Biopsy combines an extremely accurate computer with a comfortable biopsy table and a mammographic x-ray machine to accurately locate and remove a small sample of breast tissue for pathology examination.

How do I prepare for this test?

Physically there is no preparation for this procedure. We will, however, consult with both you and your physician to determine the necessity for having you abstain from taking any blood thinning agents such as aspirin or coumodin prior to this procedure. Our customer service coordinators will work individually with each patient to coordinate this procedure and provide you with your choice of appointment time.

How long will it take?

This procedure usually requires anywhere from 30-50 minutes.

What can I expect during the test?

You will be placed on the examination table in a comfortable face-down position. The area to be biopsied will be located using the computer and the mammographic x-ray machine. The board certified radiologist will determine the exact area to be biopsied. The skin will be numbed prior to the biopsy needle being placed. An extremely sensitive x-ray machine then verifies the needles location before the biopsy is taken. After the biopsy is taken a second x-ray is taken to once again verify the biopsy was performed in exactly the correct location.

What can I expect after the test?

Unless otherwise notified, you may return to your routine activity. The biopsy will be closely evaluated by a pathologist and the results communicated to your physician.