



Operation Information

Breast Core Biopsy

Introduction

Core needle biopsy is the procedure to remove a small amount of tissue from the breast with a “core” (meaning “hollow”) needle. It is usually performed under ultrasound guided local anaesthesia. The breast lesion is targeted and tissue fragments is retrieved and sent to laboratory for histological examination.

Outcomes

A biopsy is a diagnostic procedure to determine the nature of breast lesions.

Procedures

1. The operation is performed under local anaesthesia.
2. Skin preparation with antiseptics.
3. Lesion targeted on USG.
4. Local anaesthetic injected at skin and tissue.
5. Small nip made on skin. Biopsy needle inserted and tissue retrieved by biopsy apparatus.
6. 3 – 4 retrieval via small skin incision are taken.

Possible Risks and Complications

1. Wound bleeding or haematoma formation
2. Wound infection
3. Inadequate tissue for definitive diagnosis rendering further procedure
4. Rarely allergic reaction to anaesthetics
5. Puncture of pleural leading to pneumothorax (extremely rare)

** The risks listed above are in general terms and the possibility of complications is not exhaustive. Please understand that even though all operations are carried out with utmost professionalism and care, this does not rule out the possibility of complications arising. In the event of peripheral organ damage or post-operative haemorrhage or leakage, further operations may be required.

Pre-operative Preparations

1. The procedure and possible complications will be explained by the doctor and a consent form must be signed prior to the operation.
2. Please inform the doctor and nurse all your past medical history, previous surgical operations, current medication and any complication with drug or anaesthesia.
3. No need for fasting.
4. Comfortable clothing.

Post-operative Instructions

1. Water proof dressing with pressure dressing will be applied.
2. Take off the pressure dressing according to medical advice (usually 6 – 8 hours).
3. Bathing is possible while on the water proof dressing.
4. Dressing will be changed & wound inspected on follow up (usually in 2 – 3 days).
5. Analgesics will be given. Use only when in need.

Advice on Discharge

Any follow-up consultations should be attended as scheduled.

Should there be any enquiries or concerns, please consult the attending doctor.

Under the professional care of the doctor, you will gradually recover. We wish you all the best during your treatment and recovery.

If you have any questions after reading the entire leaflet, please write them down in the spaces provided in order for the doctor to further follow-up.

Compiled by Union Hospital Operating Theatre (OT) Governance Committee

The above information is for reference only, please enquire your physician for details
Our Hospital reserves the RIGHT to amend any information in this leaflet without prior notification