

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING MY STEREOTACTIC BREAST BIOPSY

What is a Stereotactic Breast Biopsy?

A stereotactic breast biopsy is a minimally invasive procedure that uses advanced computer imaging technology. This technology uses a three-dimensional coordinate system to map the precise location inside your breast that corresponds to the area of interest shown on your mammogram or ultrasound.

During the stereotactic biopsy, your surgeon will remove a small amount of tissue and will send it to the lab for a pathologist to analyze and diagnose.

How Long Does the Procedure Take?

The procedure takes about an hour.

What Will Happen During My Procedure?

On the day of your procedure, we'll give you a gown to wear. However, you will only need to undress from the waist up.

You'll lie face down on a specially designed table. Our technologist will help to position you properly so that your breast is placed through an opening in the table. The technologist will then raise the table. Your surgeon and the technologist will perform your procedure from beneath the table.

To ensure the accuracy of the procedure, we will need to slightly compress your breast so that it remains in a fixed position. The technologist will take X-ray images, and the computer's special software will map the exact location where the surgeon needs to take the tissue sample.

We'll clean the skin over the biopsy area with a disinfectant soap. We'll also numb the area with a local anesthetic using a small, thin needle.



Your surgeon will make a small incision and insert the instrument that will take the biopsy. You may feel slight pressure and hear a “click” from the biopsy device.

Your surgeon will remove the needed tissue samples and then withdraw the biopsy instrument.

The technician will lower the table, and you’ll be free to return to the dressing area, get dressed, and leave.