

Breast biopsy

Why the biopsy is done

There is a suspicious area in your breast that requires further evaluation.

Getting ready for the biopsy

No preparations are needed.

Bring your previous mammogram images (on CD) with you if you have them.

How the biopsy is done

The radiologist identifies the suspicious area in your breast with the help of ultrasound or mammogram image.

After this, the radiologist anaesthetises the area and takes a few tissue samples with a needle.

Once the samples have been taken, the radiographer presses an icepack to the biopsy site. Pressing reduces bleeding and bruising at the biopsy site.

You will be asked to continue applying pressure to the biopsy site for 10 minutes while in the changing room.

The small skin incision is closed with a butterfly bandage and covered with a dressing.

The biopsy procedure takes about an hour.

After the biopsy

The biopsy site must be kept dry for 24 hours.

Do not take a bath or go the sauna.

You should also avoid strenuous physical activity for the next 24 hours.

You may experience some pain in the breast after the procedure.

Take NSAID pain medication if necessary.

If the biopsy site starts to bleed when you are at home, press a cold pack to it for 30 minutes.

If bleeding still persists after this, call the Medical Helpline 116117.

If you detect signs of infection in the breast area within two weeks of the procedure, call your referring outpatient clinic or Medical Helpline 116117.

Signs of infection include warmth and redness.

Where do you get the results

The biopsy results will be ready in about 8 days.

You will get the results from the referring outpatient clinic or ward.

If you were referred to the biopsy from a health centre, make an appointment at your local health centre to learn your results.

Other considerations

There is no separate fee for the scan; it is included in the outpatient clinic fee.

Contact information

If you have any questions about the biopsy, please call us:

Pori, Satasairaala Diagnostic Imaging,
tel. 044 707 9202.

Phone hours:

Monday to Friday,
8 am–2.30 pm.