

## Stereotactic Breast Biopsy

### ***What is this?***

A stereotactic breast biopsy is a procedure that uses special computerized imaging to pinpoint a specific area in the breast so that tissue samples may be taken with a biopsy needle. It is used for something that may be seen on your mammogram but not well seen on an ultrasound.

### ***What are the Risks?***

Occasionally, patients may have some soreness and bruising. This can be controlled by non-prescription medication such as Tylenol or Extra-strength Tylenol and using ice compresses following the biopsy. More significant bleeding is uncommon.

If you are on any prescription anticoagulant (blood thinning) medications we usually ask that you avoid those products prior to the biopsy. Please alert the Radiology Nurse Practitioner if you are on any of these medications so that we can coordinate with your physician.

If you have allergies to any medications or medical supplies, please alert the Biopsy Scheduler to those as well.

### ***What should I do to prepare for the breast biopsy?***

Wear comfortable clothing and make sure you wear a well supportive bra.

You may eat a light meal prior to your arrival. Plan to spend around 2 hours at the Breast Center for your biopsy appointment.

Please do not wear any perfumes or powders on the day of your biopsy. You may wear deodorant.

Please alert the Radiology Nurse Practitioner if you take any prescription anticoagulant (blood thinning) medications. We will coordinate with your doctor and give you special instructions regarding this medication.

### ***What will the procedure be like?***

A Radiologist specialized in Breast Imaging will perform your biopsy. You will lie on your stomach with your breast placed through an opening in the table. Your breast will be compressed using a special paddle similar to those used in mammography. Multiple images will be taken at different angles. This allows the Radiologist to locate and target to a specific area with the help of the stereotactic computer. Your skin will be cleansed and you will receive numbing medication and a small nick will be made in the skin to insert the biopsy needle. Multiple tissue samples will be taken and a very tiny marker will be placed at the site to mark the area that is being biopsied. Steri-strips will be applied to the skin nick and post instructions will be given. A mammogram is performed after the biopsy and an ice pack bandage will be applied.

### ***How will I feel after the biopsy?***

Most women feel fine after a breast biopsy. You may feel some soreness after the numbing medication wears off. You will be instructed to take some Tylenol for soreness and use ice packs to minimize swelling and discomfort. It is not necessary to bring someone with you and many women go back to work afterwards. You should not lift anything heavier than a gallon of milk, jog or run, or any activity that would place a strain on the breast for 2-3 days, especially activity that affects the side of the biopsy.

Your results are usually available within 2-4 working days following the biopsy.

\*\*If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call our office.

Vanderbilt Breast Center at One Hundred Oaks

Main number 322-2064

Biopsy Scheduler 322-1949

Radiology Nurse Practitioner 322-1912