



Image-Guided Biopsies

General Information



JOHNS HOPKINS
MEDICINE



In an **image-guided breast biopsy**, breast tissue or cells are removed for examination under a microscope to see if cancer or other abnormalities are present.

These biopsies may be performed to evaluate:

- A palpable lump in the breast
- An abnormality seen on a mammogram
 - Microcalcifications (small calcium deposits in breast tissue)
 - Cystic or solid mass

While any of these may be cancerous, they are more commonly benign.

Our biopsy coordinator will:

- Schedule your appointment
- Ask you about your current medications
- Give you instructions for preparation

Types of Image-Guided Biopsies

The type of imaging used for your biopsy will depend on the location of the abnormality and how it is best seen.

Fine-needle aspiration biopsy. Using ultrasound, a very thin needle is placed into a possible cyst to remove a small sample of fluid and/or cells.

Ultrasound-guided biopsy/core needle biopsy. Using ultrasound, a needle is guided into a mass or abnormality to remove small cylinders of tissues (also called cores).

Stereotactic biopsy. Uses a mammogram to guide biopsy of mass or calcifications.

MRI-guided biopsy. Uses an MRI to guide biopsy of an abnormality seen only on MRI.

These biopsies are done using local anesthesia.

As with any surgical procedure, complications of bleeding or infections may occur, though rarely.

Time of procedure:

- After check-in, a radiology assistant will ask you to sign a consent form that gives your permission to do the procedure.
- The doctor will explain the procedure to you and give you a chance to ask any questions you might have.

Helpful tips for after your procedure include:

- Wear a supportive bra
- Wear comfortable two piece outfit
- Have an ice pack or small bags of frozen vegetables at home to ice the affected area(s) after you return home

Prior to leaving, the radiology assistant will give you post-procedure instructions.

JOHNS HOPKINS MEDICAL IMAGING

Green Spring Station

Biopsy by ultrasound, MRI and stereotactic technique
10755 Falls Rd.
Pavilion 1, Suite 440
Lutherville-Timonium, MD 21093

White Marsh

Biopsy by ultrasound
4924 Campbell Blvd.
Suite 105
White Marsh, MD 21236

Johns Hopkins Outpatient Center

Biopsy by ultrasound and stereotactic technique
4th Floor Breast Center
601 N. Caroline St.
Baltimore, MD 21231

To speak to our biopsy coordinator,
call 410-583-2752 today.