



Patient Information: Breast Needle Localization Before Lumpectomy/Partial Mastectomy

REASON FOR HAVING THIS PROCEDURE

This test is done when you have a known malignancy in your breast (confirmed from a biopsy done by your surgeon or after your stereotactic test). The needle localization procedure is done in order to assist your surgeon in locating the exact area of concern in your breast.

PROCEDURE DESCRIPTION

The procedure involves placing a small thin wire into the breast tissue using the mammography machine to guide the radiologist for exact placement into the area of interest.

APPOINTMENT AND DAY OF ARRIVAL

Your surgeon's office will call Parrish Medical Center to set up your appointment and give you instructions on your arrival time. Please wear comfortable clothes and do not bring valuables with you. Staff will help you get settled in our Peri-Op department on the second floor where you will be given a hospital gown to wear and asked to lie down on a stretcher. A Radiology care partner will come to take you to the Women's Diagnostic area on the hospital stretcher when it is time to begin the needle localization test.

DURING THE PROCEDURE

You will meet, and be taken care of, by a minimum of three care partners when you arrive in the Radiology Department—a registered nurse, certified mammography technologist, and radiologist (the doctor who performs the test). The exam will be done in a mammography room, but you will be seated in front of the machine instead of standing. The radiologist will numb the area of the breast with a local anesthetic. Your breast will be placed on the mammogram unit similar to the way you had mammogram pictures. A paddle may be used to hold the breast still. A second needle is inserted into the numbed breast making sure the tip is at the area of interest. Several pictures may be taken for verification. A small thin wire is inserted through the needle. The needle is then removed, leaving the wire in place. Your breast will be bandaged by the nurse and you will be helped to lie down on the stretcher again for the ride back to the second floor. Our nurses will make you as comfortable as possible until it is time for your surgery.