



DIAGNOSING BREAST CHANGES WITH A BIOPSY

A breast biopsy is a procedure to remove a sample of breast cells or tissue, or an entire lump. A pathologist then looks at the sample under a microscope to check for signs of disease. A biopsy is the only way to find out if cells are cancer. Print out and take this list of questions with you when you talk with your health care provider.

QUESTIONS TO ASK IF A BIOPSY IS RECOMMENDED

Why is a biopsy needed? What will it tell us?

What type of biopsy will I have? How will the biopsy be done?

Where will the biopsy be done? How long will it take?

How much breast tissue will be removed?

Will it hurt?

Will I be awake?

What tests will be done on the breast tissue?

When will I know the results?

Will there be side effects?

How should I care for the biopsy site?

Will I need to rest after the biopsy?

QUESTIONS TO ASK ABOUT YOUR BIOPSY RESULTS

What were the results of the biopsy?

What do the biopsy results mean?

What are the next steps? Do I need more tests?

Who should I talk with next?

Do I have an increased risk of breast cancer?

Who can give me a second opinion on my biopsy results?