



Northeast Georgia Medical Center

Breast Biopsy

How should I prepare for this procedure?

- You may eat and drink as normal prior to this procedure.
- For Gainesville procedures, you will need to arrive an hour and a half before your scheduled appointment time. For Braselton procedures, you will need to arrive an hour to an hour and a half before your scheduled appointment time. For Barrow procedures, you will need to arrive an hour before your scheduled appointment time.
- A nurse from the Interventional Radiology department will reach out to you via phone the day before your procedure.
- For your safety, you must have a caregiver or responsible adult with you to drive you home after your procedure. Due to the effects of anesthesia, sedation, or other post-procedural effects, you will not be able to drive yourself. Additionally, the responsible adult accompanying you will assume responsibility for you upon discharge. This person should be someone who can provide support and care as needed while you recover.

What should I expect when I arrive?

- For Gainesville, you will go to the registration department in the Blue tower of the hospital. When you arrive in the main lobby of the Blue tower, go down the hallway on your left. The registration department is located on the right. Labs will be drawn here if necessary.
- For Braselton, you will go in through the main entrance and check in at the desk. You will be directed to registration from there. Labs will be drawn here if necessary.
- For Barrow, take the elevator to the 2nd Floor; go to Suite 210.
- After registration, you will go to the radiology waiting room. A staff member will show you back to the Interventional Radiology department. Your driver can accompany you back to the prep area.
- A provider and nurse will explain the procedure, go over discharge instructions, and decide what medications can be safely given. An IV for medication administration will be placed if necessary.
- When it is time to go to ultrasound for your procedure, your driver will be shown to the waiting room.

What medication will be offered during this procedure?

- Anxiolysis is commonly offered for this procedure. Medications offered will be dependent on the provider's discretion on the day of your procedure. Anxiolysis is intended to relax you. However, you will be awake for this procedure.
- The medication most commonly used for anxiolysis is Versed.

What should I expect during my procedure?

- Your nurse will bring you to the Ultrasound procedure room when it is time.



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- The ultrasound tech will scan your breast to find the spot to be biopsied. Once the site is found, the doctor will be paged to come to the procedure room.
- The doctor will numb the area with a lidocaine injection and a very small cut (*incision*) will be made in your breast.
- The biopsy needle will be put through the incision. Several small cores of tissue will be collected. A suction device (*vacuum*) may be used to help remove the breast tissue.
- A tiny, metal clip will be placed in the biopsy site after tissue samples have been obtained during your procedure. This is not something you will be able to feel afterwards or set off metal detectors. This is just to mark that the site has been biopsied.
- A bandage (*dressing*) will be placed over the incision.
- Your nurse will then take you to X-ray for a light pressure mammogram to confirm the clip can be seen.

What should I expect after my procedure?

- An ice pack will be provided prior to discharge home to help with any discomfort, bruising, and swelling.
- There is no recovery time for this procedure. You will be discharged home after your mammogram is complete.
- Minor discomfort may be present that should be controllable by over-the-counter medications (Tylenol, Ibuprofen, etc.) or whatever you normally take for pain at home. No pain medication prescriptions will be provided on discharge. Any significant pain post-procedure would warrant a trip to the ER or a call to the ordering physician.