

At **Tennova Healthcare**, you will experience an extraordinary level of care filled with compassion, hope and a spirit of healing you won't find anywhere else. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns about your stereotactic breast biopsy. We want to make you as comfortable as possible.

Tennova Healthcare facilities offering stereotactic breast biopsy:

Turkey Creek Medical Center

10820 Parkside Drive
Knoxville, TN 37934

North Knoxville Medical Center

7551 Dannaher Drive
Powell, TN 37849

For more information, call
865-545-7771

Name: _____

Appointment Date: _____

Appointment Time: _____

Location: _____

If you need to reschedule your appointment, call your physician as soon as possible.



Stereotactic Breast Biopsy



What is a stereotactic breast biopsy?

Mammography is an excellent way to detect breast abnormalities, but a breast biopsy is the only definitive way to confirm if a breast irregularity is cancerous or not. Stereotactic breast biopsy is a minimally invasive procedure that obtains a portion of the suspicious tissue by inserting a needle into the lesion.

Two X-ray images of breast tissue are taken at different angles, and a computer uses the images to locate the abnormality and calculate precise coordinates. Then the computer guides the physician in placing the needle at the target to obtain a portion of the suspect tissue. A pathologist then examines the removed specimen and makes a diagnosis.

A stereotactic breast biopsy is most helpful when mammography shows a mass, tiny calcium deposits that are closely grouped together, or an area of abnormal tissue change, but no lump can be felt during breast examination.

Why might I need a stereotactic breast biopsy?

A stereotactic breast biopsy is performed when:

- A suspicious solid mass was found during a mammography, which cannot be felt during a breast exam.
- A suspicious cluster of small calcium deposits were found during mammography.
- The breast tissue structure is distorted.
- A new mass or area of calcium deposits is present at a previous surgery site.
- A nonsurgical method of assessment is preferred by the patient.

How do I prepare for my biopsy?

When you make your appointment, please let the clinician know if you take any medications, including vitamins, and if you are allergic to local anesthetic medication. You should also avoid alcohol for at least 24 hours prior to your appointment.

On the day of your biopsy, eat a light breakfast or lunch, but limit your fluids. Wear a two-piece outfit since you will be asked to undress to the waist. You may bathe before your appointment, but do not use deodorant, talcum powder, lotion, ointment or perfume as they leave a residue on your skin that can affect the quality of the imaging process.

Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment.

What will happen during the biopsy?

You will be asked to undress from the waist up and put on a front-opening gown. In the biopsy room, you will lie on your stomach on a special table with a hole through which your breast is placed and aligned with the imaging unit beneath. An X-ray will be taken to ensure the breast is positioned correctly.

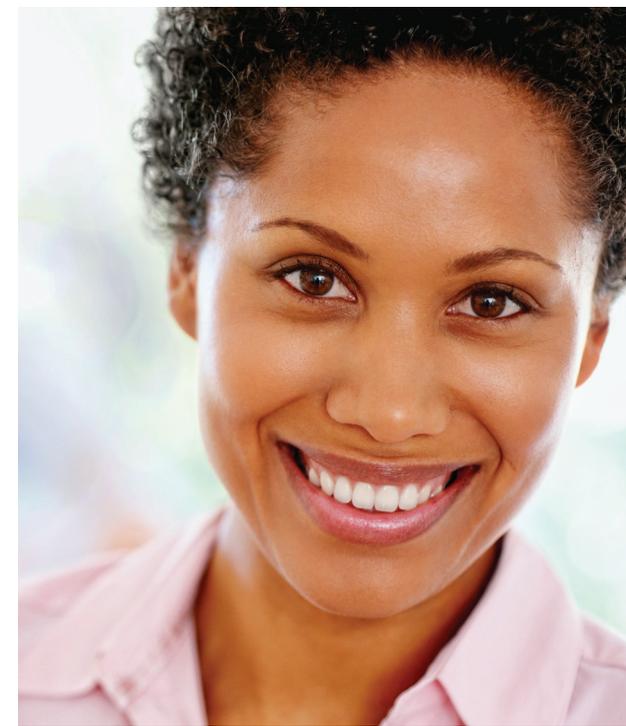
The skin on your breast will be cleansed and a local anesthetic is injected with a fine needle. You may feel a sting. Your breast will be slightly compressed, similar to a mammogram. A small nick is made in your skin and a thin, hollow needle is inserted. Because of the local anesthetic, most patients report only a small amount of discomfort.

The physician will use the computerized imaging system to precisely guide the needle to the biopsy area where several small samples will be taken.

After the needle is removed, a sterile gauze bandage is placed on the skin to prevent bleeding. Your breast should heal quickly, leaving almost no sign of the procedure. You will be in the biopsy room for approximately one hour.

When will I receive my results?

The tissue samples are reviewed by a pathologist under a microscope. The results are usually known within three days following the biopsy. A nurse navigator will call you with the results.



Does someone need to come with me or drive me home?

Even though most women who have a stereotactic breast biopsy are found to not have cancer, despite an abnormality on the mammogram, you may want to have a relative or friend accompany you to your biopsy. Please make any arrangements for childcare as we cannot be responsible for children left unattended.

Are there any risks?

There is always a slight risk of bruising and infection when the skin is pierced. However, the risk is very low compared with the potential benefits of the test. While stereotactic breast biopsies are usually sufficient to determine the nature of a breast mass, at times a larger piece of tissue may need to be removed.

