

Breast Core Biopsy: Aftercare

Patient Information

Breast Screening Unit, Thomas Linacre Centre.



The Patient Information Leaflets page on the Trust website is available on the link:
<https://www.wwl.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets> or scan the QR code.

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Our Values

**People at
the Heart**

**Listen and
Involve**

**Kind and
Respectful**

**One
Team**

What is a core biopsy?

A core biopsy uses a wide needle to take small pieces of tissue from the breast, under local anaesthetic.

An ultrasound scan or mammogram may be used as a guide to pinpoint the area, particularly when it is very small or cannot be felt.

The pieces of tissue are sent to the laboratory where they are looked at under a microscope. This helps to make a diagnosis.

How do I care for my breast after the core biopsy?

A small cut has been made in your skin and a dressing has been placed over this.

The dressing should be left in place for 3 days. It is important to keep the wound clean and dry.

How will I feel when I get home?

The local anaesthetic will wear off after about 2 hours. Your breast may ache and may also become bruised. You can take Paracetamol if the area is tender or painful.

Take it easy for the rest of the day; do not do any heavy lifting or a lot of moving around.

Signs to look out for?

Occasionally, the wound may start to bleed again. If this happens, press firmly on the dressing. If the bleeding continues or you notice swelling or a lump and you have any concerns, please contact us (see below).

Very occasionally, the wound may become infected. If this happens you will feel unwell, and your breast may be red and sore. You will need treatment for this, so please contact us (see overleaf).

When will I get the results?

Your results are usually ready within 10 days but sometimes it may take longer.

Results Appointment:

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Contact us

If you have any concerns at all, please contact us. We are available:
Monday to Friday, between the hours of
8:45am and 4:45pm.

Telephone any of the numbers below:

0300 707 5755

0300 707 5725

0300 707 5820

0300 707 5899

**For emergencies out of these hours, please contact your GP or go to your nearest
Emergency Department.**

Comments, Compliments or Complaints

The Patient Relations/Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Department provides confidential on the spot advice, information and support to patients, relatives, friends, and carers.

Contact Us

Tel: 01942 822376 (Monday to Friday 9am until 4pm)

The Patient Relations/PALS Manager
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
Wigan Lane
Wigan
WN1 2NN

Ask 3 Questions

Become more involved in decisions about your healthcare. You may be asked to make choices about your treatment. To begin with, try to make sure you get the answers to three key questions:

1. What are my options?
2. What are the positives and negatives of each option for me?
3. How do I get support to help me make a decision that is right for me?



How We Use Your Information

For details on how we collect, use, and store the information we hold about you, please see patient information leaflet, Ref. **Corp 006** How we use your information, this can be found on the Patient Information Leaflets page on the Trust website, see details on the front cover.

This leaflet is also available in audio, large print, Braille, and other languages upon request. For more information, please ask in the department/ward.

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