



## Patient Information: Breast Biopsy

by Dr. Bunch & Dr. Erbella

Procedures	Stereotactic, Needle Guided or Open Breast Biopsies
<b>Incision Care</b>	Remove any dressing(s) in 24hrs. The incision(s) may be sealed with a skin adhesive ( <b>Dermabond</b> ) or covered with white adhesive tapes known as <b>steri-strips</b> . Either way, there is no need to cover up the incisions again with gauze.
<b>Bra</b>	Wear a soft bra for at least 24hrs and then as you normally do thereafter.
<b>Shower</b>	You may shower 24 hours after surgery & get the incision(s) or steri-strips wet with soapy water and gently pad them dry. If the steri-strips come off in the shower, do not become concerned. If they are still in place 10 days after surgery, you may remove them.
<b>Pain Medications</b>	You will be given a prescription for a narcotic pain medication (usually <b>Lortab</b> or Percocet). Options for non-constipating pain medications include products that include Ibuprofen or Tylenol. To combat constipation, you may take a stool softener ( <b>Colace</b> ) twice each day.
<b>Activity</b>	Do not do any heavy lifting (more than 5 pounds) or vigorous exercise for 2 days. You can do anything you want after that.
<b>Diet</b>	You may eat anything you desire. If your throat is sore, try eating soft foods.
<b>Return to Work</b>	You may return to work the following <b>day after</b> a stereotactic biopsy. After an open biopsy or needle-guided biopsy, resume work in <b>2-5 days</b> .
<b>Physician Appointment</b>	Call (941) 744-2700 to make your post-operative appointment to see Dr. Bunch or Dr. Erbella in <b>1 week</b> or if you have any questions.
<b>Biopsy Results</b>	It normally takes 4-5 working days to process the biopsy by our pathology lab. This usually works out well so we can review your pathology with you on your follow-up visit.
<b>When to call your Surgeon</b>	<p>Persistent fever over 101.5 degrees F (39 C).</p> <p>Pain that is not relieved by your medications.</p> <p>Persistent nausea or vomiting.</p> <p>Persistent cough or shortness of breath.</p> <p>Purulent drainage (pus) or bleeding from any incision.</p> <p>Redness surrounding any of your incisions that is worsening or getting bigger.</p> <p>If you are unable to eat or drink liquids.</p>
<b>In Case of Emergency</b>	Your surgeon is available 24hrs a day. You may call either our office (941) 744-2700, your nearest emergency room at Blake, Lakewood Ranch or Manatee Hospitals or Dial 911.