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Patient Instructions

STEREOTACTIC BREAST BIOPSY

You have just undergone a stereotactic breast biopsy. Microscopic examination will be done on the tissue in approximately two or three days and a final report will then be issued by the pathologist. You will be informed of the results at your follow-up visit.

At surgery, small samples of tissue are removed from your breast using a hollow biopsy needle. There will be some bleeding from the sites where the needle was placed and these areas have been bandaged. Tomorrow, you must remove this dressing and clean the wound with hydrogen peroxide and gauze sponges. You might notice some swelling or bruising in the area of the biopsy. This is normal. We would like you to wear a fairly tight bra for the next week, as this reduces motion and therefore reduces pain and promotes better healing. You should even sleep in a bra.

You may begin showering normally starting the day after surgery. Pat the area of the incision dry and follow the dressing instructions above.

Please call my office and make an appointment to see me in approximately a week to ten days to check the incision site and discuss the results.

You will be given a prescription for pain medicine to take home with you. You may take this medication as often as every four hours if you need it. Some patients do not have very much pain following this surgery, and if you do not, it is not necessary to get this prescription filled. Plain Tylenol or Advil may be adequate.

If you note any excessive swelling, bleeding, discharge, redness or heat, please call my office.

If you have any problems regarding the surgery, or questions on what to do after it, please feel free to call the office. Otherwise, I will expect to see you in a week to ten days.