Breast Biopsies

Iowa Radiology

Ankeny: 3625 N. Ankeny Blvd. #H
Clive: 12368 Stratford Dr. #350
Des Moines: 1221 Pleasant St. #300
Waukee: 2515 Grand Prairie Pkwy 2nd Floor

A Clearer Path to Answers

Your doctor has recommended a breast biopsy because an abnormality was seen on your imaging exam. A biopsy provides essential information to help determine next steps and guide your care. At Iowa Radiology our breast imaging specialists perform stereotactic, ultrasound-guided, and MRI-guided biopsies. These outpatient procedures are minimally invasive, non surgical, and allow you to return home shortly after.

How to **Prepare**

- Eat a light meal before your appointment.
- Wear a two-piece outfit and bring a supportive bra (a sports bra works well).
- Plan for about two hours for consultation, imaging, and the procedure.

When to **Call Us**

Call if you are experiencing any of the following symptoms:

- Bleeding that doesn't stop with firm pressure
- Signs of infection (redness, warmth, discharge or fever)

What to **Expect**

MRI Guided Biopsy: You will lie face down while the MRI images guide the biopsy. After local anesthetic, you may feel mild pressure. Remaining still is important.

Sterotactic Biopsy: You will sit next to a mammography unit while images guide the biopsy needle. After numbing, you may feel pressure, but it should not be painful.

Ultrasound Guided Biopsy: You will lie on your back while ultrasound maps the area. After numbing, tissue samples are taken through a tiny incision.

After the Procedure

Each biopsy requires a very small incision, which is closed with Dermabond rather than stitches.

- Use ice as needed for swelling.
- Keep site clean and dry; do not pick or apply ointments.
- Use acetaminophen only, avoid aspirin or ibuprofen for 24 hours.
- Avoid strenuous activity for 24 hours.
- Wear a supportive bra.
- Shower the day after your procedure, avoid soaking.
- Bruising and tenderness are normal, a small lump may last a few weeks.

During normal business hours: (515) 226-7414 (8 - 4:30pm).
After 4:30pm, a weekend or holiday: Call Methodist Radiology at (515) 241-6171, inform staff you've recently had a breast biopsy and request to speak with the Interventional Radiologist on call.