

# **Breast Biopsy**

## **Preoperative Preparation**

**Fasting:** It is important to follow your instructions about fasting before your surgery. Ask the doctor which of your routine medications you should take that day in spite of not eating.

**Pre-op Shower:** Take a thorough shower (preferably with antibacterial soap such as Dial or Hibiclens but any good soap will do) with emphasis to the area of the planned incision, the night before and the morning of your surgery. Underarm shaving is not necessary.

## **Postoperative Instructions**

You should remove the gauze bandage approximately 48 hrs after the procedure. You may then shower and get the wound wet. If there are external sutures, they will need to be removed in 5-7 days. Wounds that have tapes on the skin under the gauze have dissolvable sutures that do not require removal.

Many women find a good support bra is more comfortable (even at night) for the first several days. You only need to wear one if it is comfortable. There are no significant restrictions on your activity. Your biopsy should not be very painful. The pain should be easily controlled with the mild narcotic prescribed. If the wound becomes red, significantly more painful after 3-4 days, or starts draining fluid, call the office.

Call for a follow-up appointment according to your postoperative instructions. Your pathology report should be completed 48-72 hours after the biopsy. Call the office for the results.