

What is an Ultrasound-Guided Breast Cyst Aspiration?

An ultrasound-guided breast cyst aspiration drains fluid from cysts in the breast. A radiologist (specialized doctor) does this procedure. The procedure only takes a few minutes. Plan to stay at the Breast Health Center for at least one hour.

On the Day of Your Procedure

- You may eat and drink normally before the procedure.
- **California Campus: Arrive 15 minutes early.**
 - Register in the lobby of 3698 California St. Then, take the elevator up to the 2nd floor (Breast Health Center) and check in at the front desk.
- **St. Luke's Campus: Arrive 30 minutes early.**
 - Register in Room 103 on the 1st floor of 1580 Valencia Street (Monteagle Bldg).
- Before the procedure, you sign a consent form stating that you understand the procedure.
- You can come alone or bring family and/or friends. They can wait in the waiting room during the procedure.

During Your Procedure

1. You lie down on a soft, narrow bed.
2. The radiologist uses an ultrasound machine to find the location of the cyst(s) in your breast.
3. The radiologist gives you a shot to numb the area above the cyst.
4. The radiologist inserts a thin needle into your breast to drain the cyst(s). The fluid from the cyst drains out into a syringe and the cyst collapses.
5. The procedure is painless for most women.
6. Steri-Strips® (incision tapes) and antibiotic ointment may be applied at the site of the biopsy. The puncture site is covered with a bandage.

After the Procedure

- You may drive home alone after the procedure.
- You may return to work and go back to your usual activities after the procedure.
- If there is a need for follow-up after the procedure, the Breast Health Center staff, the radiologist, or your doctor will contact you in 2 – 3 days.

More Ways to Learn

- Call the Breast Health Center:
 - California Campus: (415) 600-6281
 - St. Luke's Campus: (415) 641-3360
- Visit the American Cancer Society web site at www.cancer.org.
- Go to www.cpmc.org/learning.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Will there be any discomfort?

Answer: The procedure is painless for most women.

Question: Can I drive home after this procedure?

Answer: You may drive home alone after this procedure.

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Note: This information is not meant to replace any information or personal medical advice which you get directly from your doctor(s). If you have any questions about this information, such as the risks or benefits of the treatment listed, please ask your doctor(s).