

PATIENT INFORMATION

Breast Imaging

Recall for Further Imaging Assessment

We understand you may be anxious about being asked to return for further imaging. This leaflet explains what to expect from your appointment.

Why Have I Been Recalled?

Further imaging is required to clarify a specific area in your breast on your mammogram.

What will happen at the appointment?

It usually involves a combination of:

Further mammograms: Focused on the area of concern.

Clinical Breast Examination: The clinician will perform a clinical examination of your breasts.

Breast Ultrasound: Gel is applied and a probe is passed over the breast to visualise the area of concern. This is usually painless.

Depending on the findings of these you may then require a needle test. There are two types of needle test:

Fine needle aspiration: A sample of cells is taken using a blood test needle under ultrasound guidance.

Core biopsy: Local anaesthetic is injected first and a small piece of tissue is then taken using a special biopsy needle. This may be done under ultrasound or mammographic guidance.

Axillary ultrasound: If a needle test is necessary then an ultrasound of the axilla (armpit) will normally be performed.

Risks and benefits

Breast biopsy is not a high risk procedure. Most patients suffer some bruising and discomfort but it is unusual for this to last more than 1-2 weeks.

Anticoagulant drugs - Inc. Aspirin, Clopidogrel, Warfarin, Fragmin, and Dabigatran.

It is important that if you are taking any anticoagulant (blood thinning) drugs please notify the clinic staff prior to the appointment. Please bring your INR records with you on the day of your appointment.

When will I get my results?

The findings of the extra mammogram and ultrasound will be explained to you on the day. If you have a needle test this takes up to 10/12 days to process. You will be advised when your results will be available.

How long will it take?

Depending on what needs to be done the whole visit may take up to 2 hours.

Anything else?

Please feel free to ask any questions during your visit. We want you to leave the clinic fully informed.

Can I bring anyone with me to the appointment?

Please feel free to bring a friend or relative to sit with you whilst you wait. However, they will not be allowed into the examination room for the actual procedure.

Unfortunately, we do not have childcare facilities so **please do not bring young children with you.**

If you have any questions you would like to ask prior to your appointment please contact the breast care nursing team on **01803 655662** Monday to Friday between 9:00 am and 5.00 pm.

For further assistance or to receive this information in a different format, please contact the department which created this leaflet.