

Having a breast localisation

You have been referred for breast localisation by your doctor or health care professional. This leaflet explains what the examination involves and what to expect when you come to the hospital. It may not answer all your questions, so if you have any queries or concerns, please call the telephone number on your appointment letter.

What is breast localisation?

Breast localisation is a procedure to insert a localisation device into the breast. This device helps guide your surgeon to the area of breast tissue they need to remove. This procedure is carried out either with ultrasound or x-ray, guiding the operator to the area of breast tissue they want to localise. The procedure is carried out by either an advanced practitioner or radiologist; both are trained professionals in this type of procedure.

The examination should take approximately 30 mins to complete.

Please note, we endeavour to keep to appointment times, however you may be delayed if an emergency arises. If so, we will keep you informed of the estimated delay time.

Giving my consent

The medical team will ask for your consent for the procedure to go ahead. This is known as verbal consent. If you do not wish to have the procedure or are undecided, please tell the medical team.

Students/trainees may be present during the examination but only with your verbal consent.

Please remember that you can ask the medical team any questions you have at any time before, during or after your procedure.

What happens during a breast localisation?

This procedure is carried out either with ultrasound or x-ray to guide the medical professional to the area of breast tissue they want to localise. For both methods you will be asked to remove your clothes from your top half and to wear a gown.

For ultrasound guided procedures you will lie on the examination couch. Here, you will have gel applied to the skin in the breast area. The radiologist will slowly move a small handheld probe over the area while viewing the images produced on the monitor. The lights in the room will

be dimmed so that the pictures on the screen can be seen more clearly and records of selected images will be made so that they can be viewed later. The radiologist may have to gently press down on the probe to get a good view. This may be uncomfortable for some people. If you do feel uncomfortable, please inform the radiologist, so that suitable adjustments can be made.

For x-ray guided procedures a mammogram machine is used. You will be placed in a specialist chair that can be used upright or lying down depending on how best to access the area of breast tissue. You will have compression applied to the breast. There is a minimum amount of compression that must be used to complete the procedure. X-rays will be taken and at some points the machine around you will move. Nothing will touch you, but the machine will make noise when doing this. For both procedures when the area of concerning breast tissue is located, the medical team will clean the skin and insert a small needle into the breast. The local anaesthesia will be administered via this needle. The medical team will wait to allow local anaesthesia time to numb the area. You may be aware of pressure/movement in the breast, but you should not feel pain. Tell the medical if you are experiencing pain and more anaesthesia can be used. The breast localisation device will be inserted and will remain in the breast.

Once the examination is over, depending on the guidance method used the gel will be wiped off or compression released.

The number of staff present will be kept to a minimum and is usually the person performing the procedure and one other staff member.

After your procedure

After placing a localisation device, a mammogram of that breast will be taken to assess the position of the device. Once happy with the position the wound will get a dressing. Before the dressing is placed on the wound, please let the staff know if you have any allergies to latex/plasters so other dressings can be used

Once the procedure is complete you should remain in the department. Only leave the department after you have been told to do so by a member of staff. The procedure will be reported, and the report will be sent to your surgical team who referred you for the procedure. This team will use these results to guide them during your surgery/treatment.

What are the benefits of breast localisation?

A breast localisation device can accurately identify the area of tissue to be removed during surgery. Accurate identification of this area can improve surgical outcomes.

What are the risks with breast localisation?

Breast localisations have risks associated with them. These include:

- Infection - the skin surface is broken during the procedure so an infection could result.
- An allergic reaction - because of the local anaesthesia given to numb the breast.
- Bruising and bleeding - the breast has a large blood supply, and it would be common to bruise after the procedure.

Is there an alternative to breast localisation?

Your referrer has decided that breast localisation would be the most useful in your case. The examination will guide your referrer during surgery/treatment. If you would like more information about alternative localisation methods, please speak to the doctor or health care professional managing your care.

Image sharing

Your images will be electronically stored on the hospital radiological information system. This data can be accessed throughout the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust and other doctors and health care professionals who are directly involved in your care. The ability to share images and radiological reports will improve the safety and quality of your care by ensuring that the right information is available in the right place at the right time.

In order to improve the medical services we provide we may also use your data as anonymously as possible for internal audit and medical education. If your data is to be used for research, then a separate consent process will be used. You will be asked for your consent, should this be the case.

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about coming for your breast localisation, please contact the appointments officer at the number displayed on your appointment letter.

We hope you found the information in this leaflet helpful. If it did not tell you what you needed to know or you would like to provide any feedback on your experience, please let us know so that we can make any necessary improvements.

You can provide feedback on your experience:

Telephone: (028) 9504 8000 (Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm)

Textphone: 18001 028 950 48000

By email: compliments@belfasttrust.hscni.net

By completing an online form:

<http://www.belfasttrust.hscni.net/contact/FeedbackForm.htm>



Care Opinion

We invite you to share your experience by clicking the following link: <https://www.careopinion.org.uk/>

or by scanning the following QR code on your smartphone or tablet:



Language and accessible support services

Do you need this information in another format or language?

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format, including Braille, large print, CD, audio tape please contact the telephone number or e-mail address 028 950 40135 / MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net, and we will do our best to meet your needs.

Czy potrzebujesz tych informacji w innym formacie lub języku?

Fundusz ma dostęp do usług w zakresie tłumaczeń ustnych i pisemnych. Jeśli potrzebujesz tych informacji w innym języku lub formacie, w tym w piśmie Braille'a, dużym druku, na płycie CD, kasecie magnetofonowej, skontaktuj się z nami pod numerem telefonu lub adresem e-mail (028 950 40135) / MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net, a my dołożymy wszelkich starań, aby spełnić Twoje potrzeby.

هل تحتاج هذه المعلومات بصيغة أو بلغة أخرى؟

تستطيع الجمعية توفير خدمات الترجمة الفورية والتحريرية. إذا احتجت هذه المعلومات بلغة أو بصيغة أخرى، بما فيها صيغة

أو في شريط مسموع، يُرجى CD أو صيغة بالأحرف الكبيرة، أو في سي دي Braille برايل الاتصال برقم التليفون أو عبر البريد

، وسوف ن بذل قصارى جهدنا في تلبية / (028 950 40135) الإلكتروني
احتياجاتك. MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net

Ar jums reikia šios informacijos kitu formatu ar kalba?

Tarnyba gali suteikti vertimo žodžiu ir raštu paslaugas. Jei reikia šios informacijos kita kalba ar formatu, įskaitant Brailio raštą, didelį šriftą, kompaktinį diską, garso įrašą, skambinkite telefonu arba susisiekite el. paštu (028 950 40135) / MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net ir mes padarysime viską, kad patenkintume jūsų poreikius.

Aveți nevoie de aceste informații într-un alt format sau altă limbă?

Trustul are acces la servicii de interpretariat și traducere. Dacă aveți nevoie de aceste informații într-o altă limbă sau într-un alt format, inclusiv Braille, tipărire cu caractere de mari dimensiuni, CD, înregistrare audio, atunci vă rugăm să ne contactați la numărul de telefon sau la adresa de e-mail (028 950 40135) / MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net, iar noi vom face tot posibilul pentru satisfacerea necesităților dumneavoastră.

Ita presiza atu informasaun ida ne'e iha formatu ka lian seluk ka lae?

Fidusiáriu ida ne'e iha asesu ba servisu durubasa no tradusaun. Se Ita presiza informasaun ida ne'e iha lian ka formatu seluk, inklui letra Braille, letra boot, CD, kasete audio, entaun favór telefone número ka enderesu e-mail (028 950 40135) / MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net, no ami sei halo esforsu tomak atu kumpre Ita-nia nesesidade sira.