

PATIENT INFORMATION AFTER THE BIOPSY

- The area that has been biopsied may feel a little tender for several days and there is usually some bruising.
- If the biopsy area is painful, you can take simple pain killers; for example, paracetamol.
- Medicines containing aspirin are not recommended, because aspirin thins the blood and can increase bruising or bleeding at the biopsy site.
- You should avoid vigorous physical exercise or heavy lifting for 24 hours after the procedure, as this may make the bruising worse.
- The small skin cut that was made for the biopsy usually heals over in a few days and you will have a tiny scar less than 5 mm in size that will be barely visible once healed.
- In case of bleeding or severe pain, place ice over area, apply pressure and contact our department.
- Contact our department if you experience extensive swelling, fluid secretion, redness or heat in the biopsy area.
- After 48 hours you can remove the compression bandage and adhesive tape. If glue residues remain on your skin that you are unable to remove then you can ask your pharmacist for a suitable solvent (e.g. acetone).
- If you have had a marker clip inserted, the clip will remain inside the breast and it is not harmful to the body. Unless a further operation is required to remove more breast tissue, the clip can remain in the body forever and causes no harm.
- There is a very small risk of infection. In the very unlikely event that the biopsy site becomes infected, a course of antibiotics may be required from your doctor.

COMPRESSION BANDAGE

- When leaving the exam, you have a compression bandage, which you have to keep for 24 hours, without getting wet.
- After 1 day, you can remove the adhesive strap and then in your bathroom, under the shower water, gently remove the Steris trip adhesive tape.
- Then gently cleanse the skin with soap and water, rinse and then dry with a clean towel.