

Informed Consent for Ultrasound-Guided Breast Aspiration

Your doctor has referred you for an ultrasound-guided breast cyst aspiration. This consent explains the procedure and possible complications.

Description of the Procedure:

Cyst aspiration of the breast is performed to accurately diagnose a cyst as benign or malignant. During the procedure the breast is prepped using a cleansing solution. The radiologist may use a local anesthetic to numb the skin, and then a needle is inserted into the breast to obtain fluid from the cyst. Most patients experience only mild discomfort during the procedure. The fluid from the cyst is sent to the lab for pathological diagnosis. In the event that fluid cannot be obtained, the radiologist may suggest proceeding to a breast biopsy in order to obtain core samples of tissue to send to pathology. If this occurs, additional information will be provided to you.

Risks of the Procedure:

Following the aspiration, you may have some tenderness, bruising, bleeding and/or infection. Complications are uncommon.

Alternatives:

Serial ultrasound exams.

Anticipated Benefits:

This procedure is useful in determining pathology of a cyst as benign or malignant. Some cysts disappear after the aspiration; some cysts will come back. The aspiration may relieve pain.

Consent:

I have been informed of the nature, risks, consequences, and alternatives of this procedure. No guarantee has been made as to the results. I have read and fully understand the above information, and have had all my questions answered. I consent to have a local anesthetic administered. I give my consent to have this procedure performed.