

Breast Surgery



A Breast Biopsy is a minor procedure where an incision is made into the breast and a small sample of tissue is removed. This tissue is sent to the laboratory to be viewed under the microscope.

Every effort will be made to make your waiting time before surgery as brief as possible. However, delays are sometimes unavoidable due to unforeseen circumstances e.g. emergency surgery.

The Day Surgery Unit staff will inform you of any delays as soon as possible.

What to expect after your operation

You will be awakened in the theatre recovery area where the staff will check your blood pressure and pulse before returning you to the Day Surgery Unit to complete your recovery.

Some pain or discomfort after your operation is quite normal, and you will be given painkilling tablets for this.

Following your operation you may have a thick bulky dressing over your breast. This is to stop any bleeding, which may occur, you can remove this dressing after 48 hours.

Your wound will have been stitches in theatre, the stitches may be absorbable which means that they will just melt away, if not they will be removed by the District Nurse in a week to ten days.

You may experience bruising and swelling around the site, this is quite normal. A good fitting bra will support the breast and ease any discomfort.

After surgery you will be allowed to rest for a few hours and assuming there are no complications you will be allowed home the same day.

If for any reason you are requiring to stay in hospital overnight following your operation, a bed will be made available for you and we will inform your relatives at your request.

Once you are home

It is advisable to rest for 24-48 hours after discharge, as you may not feel up to doing very much. Take the painkillers you have been given, and always following the instructions on the pack.

Follow up

You will be asked to attend the practice nurse at your GP for a wound check at an appropriate time if required. You will receive a letter for your GP and a follow-up appointment if required prior to discharge.

If you require any **further advice or information**, please contact the nursing staff at DAY SURGERY UNIT Telephone **01324 567537**.

If you have any **urgent concerns or emergencies**, please contact your GP, NHS 24 or present at the Emergency Department (A&E) Forth Valley Royal Hospital, Larbert.

We are happy to consider requests for this publication in other languages or formats such as large print. Please call 01324 590886 (24hrs), fax 01324 590867 or email FV-UHB.disabilitydepartment@nhs.net

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NHS Forth Valley Administration Offices
Westburn Avenue, Falkirk FK1 5SU
www.nhsforthvalley.com