

Wireless Localization

Introduction and self-care instructions

This handout explains what a wireless localization device is, and gives instructions to follow after the reflector is placed in your breast or lymph node.

What is a wireless localizing system?

A wireless localization system helps your surgeon know exactly what tissue to remove during breast surgery. This system includes a wireless *reflector*, which is a very small device (about the size of a grain of rice). It is placed in your breast before surgery to mark the exact spot your surgeon needs to remove.

Before your lumpectomy or surgical biopsy:

- A radiologist places the reflector inside your breast using a small needle.
- During surgery, your surgeon uses a special hand tool to find the exact location of the reflector.

The reflector:

- Is safe and approved by the FDA
- Does not affect your body or your health
- Will not set off metal detectors
- Will not stop you from having other imaging tests, like an MRI

After the Reflector is Placed

- You can go back to your normal activities.
- The small spot where the needle went in will be covered with a Band Aid. You can take this off after 2 hours.
- If the radiologist marked your skin with a pen to help your surgeon:
 - You may trace over the marks with a pen to keep them visible until surgery.
 - Don't worry if the marks fade. Your surgeon will still be able to find the marker.

Call us right away if you notice:

- Redness, swelling, or drainage at the needle site
- Pain or soreness that is getting worse
- Fever or chills

Questions?

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns.

**Monday through Friday,
8 am – 5 pm,** call the Breast Imaging Clinic at UWMC – Northwest: 206.668.1749

After hours and on weekends and holidays, call the Breast Clinic at UWMC – Northwest: 206.668.6746

