

## Breast Wire Localization

A needle or wire localization is an outpatient procedure. It is used to find an area in the breast that is of concern but cannot be felt by your doctor. It is also used to find abnormal tissue that was seen on a mammogram, ultrasound and/or MRI. This procedure is done on the day of surgery as a guide.

This procedure has 2 phases:

1. **Placement of a needle.** A needle is inserted, and a wire is threaded through it to the area of concern. The needle is removed, and the wire is secured into place. A mammogram or ultrasound is used for proper placement of the needle. During either of these 2 procedures a local sedative will be given to numb the area.
2. **Removing the needle and the area of concern.** During this phase, you are taken to the surgical area, where you are sedated. This means you will be given medicine to help you relax and sleep during the procedure. The doctor will use the wire as a guide to remove the abnormal tissue. The tissue that was removed will be x-rayed to make sure the wire is in the tissue and no longer in your body.

The tissue is then sent to a pathologist for further testing. This is to make sure the abnormal tissue has been removed. The results can take 7-10 days to come back. Once the results are in, the doctor will review them with you during your post-operative visit.