



Beaumont Hospital
Beaumont Road, Dublin 9
(01) 809 3000



Patient Information
on

BREAST TAG LOCALISATION



What is a breast tag localisation?

If you have a lesion or area of the breast which your surgeon is unable to feel, the breast surgeon may recommend 'Tag' insertion prior to surgery.

The 'Tag' procedure marks the lesion/area to be removed with a miniature radiofrequency tag. The tag is removed during your surgery.

When is the procedure performed?

The insertion of the tag usually occurs in the days or weeks prior to your surgery. It is safe to leave the tag in the breast. Inserting the tag in advance allows greatest flexibility around scheduling your surgery and reduces delays on the day of surgery.

How long will the procedure last?

The tag insertion takes approximately 30 minutes to complete.

How is the procedure performed?

This procedure is carried out by a radiologist. The skin over the area is cleaned with disinfectant and a local anaesthetic will be injected into the area to numb it. A tiny cut will be made on your breast skin and the tag needle will pass through it.

Using a mammogram or ultrasound to guide them, the radiologist will insert a tag into the breast area that needs to be removed. The radiologist will check that the tag is in the correct position with a mammogram. A small paper stitch and dressing will be applied. This dressing can be removed by you the following day.

The procedure is similar to a biopsy or clip insertion, if you have had these performed already.

What happens after the procedure is completed?

Following the procedure you will go home and the surgical team will contact you with a date for surgery. The tag will stay in place until your surgery. The tag does not affect your day to day living. You won't feel it and it does not set off metal detectors. The tag will be removed during your operation.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the breast radiology department or any one of the breast care nurse specialists.

Breast Radiology: (01) 809 2279

Breast Care Nurses: (01) 809 3183



Breast Tag Localisation Leaflet

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