Patient Information for Breast Needle Localization prior To Lumpectomy/Partial Mastectomy

**REASON FOR HAVING THIS PROCEDURE:** This test is done when you have a known malignancy in your breast from a biopsy that was done by your surgeon or after your stereotactic test. The Needle Localization procedure is performed in order to assist your surgeon in locating the exact area of concern in your breast.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCEDURE:** The procedure involves the placement of a small thin wire into the breast tissue using the mammography machine to guide the radiologist for exact placement into the area of interest.

**APPOINTMENT AND DAY OF ARRIVAL:** Your surgeon’s office will call Parrish Medical Center to set up your appointment and give you instructions on your time of arrival. Please wear comfortable clothes and do not bring valuables with you. Staff will help you get settled in our “PERI-OP” department upstairs, you will be given a hospital gown to wear. You will be asked to lie down on a stretcher. Radiology staff will come to take you to the Women’s Diagnostic Area when it is time to begin the needle localization test. You will travel on the hospital stretcher.

**WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE PROCEDURE:** You will meet and be taken care of by a minimum of 3 care partners when you arrive in the Radiology Department. A Registered Nurse, A Certified Mammography Technologist, and a Radiologist (the doctor who performs the test). The exam will be done in a mammography room, but you will be seated in front of the machine instead of standing. The Radiologist will numb the area of the breast with a local anesthetic. Your breast will be placed on the mammogram unit similar to the way you had mammogram pictures. A paddle may be used to hold the breast still. A second needle is inserted into the numbed breast making sure the tip is at the area of interest. Several pictures may be taken for verification. A small thin wire is inserted through the needle, and then the needle is removed, leaving the wire. Your breast is then bandaged by the nurse and you will be helped to lie down on the stretcher again for the ride back upstairs. Our Nurses will make you as comfortable as possible until it is time for your surgery.