

## Frequently Asked QUESTIONS

Your Wire Localization will be performed in conjunction with your scheduled surgical breast biopsy. You will receive the procedure the same day, before continuing on to your scheduled surgery.

### What if I have questions about the wire localization procedure?

If you have any questions, please contact our Biopsy Coordinator at (253) 680-3638 during normal business hours.

### What if I have questions about the surgical breast biopsy?

Please refer all questions to your surgeon.



## Your Appointment

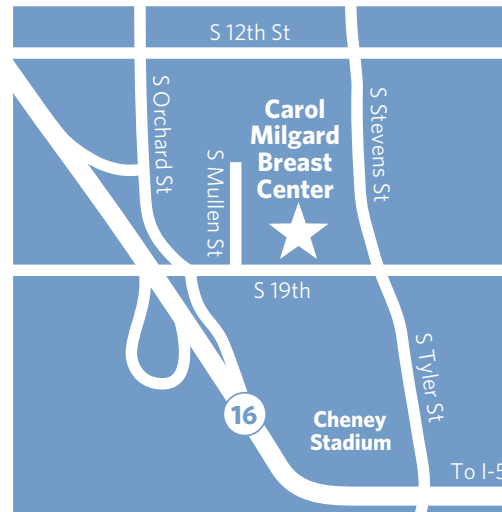
MON  TUE  WED  THU  FRI

DATE

TIME

*In order to provide you with the best care possible, we ask that you please arrive no later than the time requested.*

If you have any questions about the exam, **please contact our Biopsy Coordinator at (253) 680-3638.**



On-site parking is available

Carol Milgard  
Breast Center



A Franciscan—MultiCare—TRA Collaboration

4525 S. 19th Street  
Tacoma, WA 98405



The Carol Milgard Breast Center is fully accredited in Mammography and Breast Ultrasound by the American College of Radiology (ACR). The ACR only grants the gold seal of accreditation when a breast center provides patients the highest level of image quality and patient safety.



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[www.carolmilgardbreastcenter.org](http://www.carolmilgardbreastcenter.org)

## Wire Localization



## IT MATTERS

*that you are informed  
that you are prepared  
that you receive expert care*

Carol Milgard  
Breast Center



## IT MATTERS

that you have the facts.

You've heard the saying that information is power; but it can also provide peace of mind. Being told that you have to return for a diagnostic procedure can be stressful. But knowing the facts and what to expect can help.

### What is Wire Localization?

Wire Localization, also known as needle localization, helps a surgeon accurately locate abnormal tissue in the breast so it may be removed during surgery. It is performed the same day as a surgical breast biopsy.

At the Carol Milgard Breast Center our specialized physicians are board-certified radiologists who focus solely on breast screenings and diagnostics, so they have the highest likelihood of detecting potential problems early on. Our technologists have also received specialized training in breast imaging.

## IT MATTERS

that you know what to expect.

While you are at the Carol Milgard Breast Center, you will experience a safe, comfortable and respectful atmosphere, with soft plush robes, private lockers, and a spa-like setting. We offer specialized care in a technologically advanced facility, and foster close partnerships with area physicians and surgeons.

### What Will the Exam Be Like?

For your Wire Localization appointment, you should plan on being in the center for about an hour. The procedure itself will only take about 20 to 30 minutes.

The breast abnormality is located using mammography or ultrasound techniques. If mammography is used, you will be sitting still for the exam; if ultrasound is used, you will be lying still on your back.

Once the abnormality is located, the area will be cleaned. A radiologist will inject a local anesthetic into your skin and deeper tissues to numb the area. Using mammography or ultrasound, the radiologist will use a small needle to insert a guide wire next to the area of concern. Most patients experience minimal discomfort during this procedure.

Once the wire is in place, a mammogram will be performed to document the position of the wire. You will take a copy of these images with you to your scheduled surgery. The wire is designed to be held securely in place until your surgical procedure is performed.

## IT MATTERS

that you know the before and after.

Most diagnostic procedures are simple to prepare for. With a few easy steps you will be ready for your exam.

### What Do I Need to Do Before My Procedure?

Be sure to follow any surgical prep guidelines as instructed by your surgeon. Please wear a comfortable, loose fitting two-piece outfit, as you will be asked to remove your top prior to the exam. A soft robe will be provided for your comfort. Please refrain from wearing any powder, perfume, deodorant and/or lotion on your underarms and breasts prior to the procedure.

### What Do I Need to Do After My Procedure?

Following your Wire Localization you will go directly to your scheduled surgery, taking a copy of images documenting the wire with you.

The surgical staff will give you aftercare instructions specific to your surgical procedure.

If you have questions or are curious about the procedure at any time, do not hesitate to ask your technologist or radiologist. **It's important that you are informed!**

