

All About Lumpectomy (Partial Mastectomy)

One of the most important goals of Moffitt Cancer Center is to provide you with quality patient care through education, research and patient care. The initial surgical treatment your doctor will recommend depends on the location and size of your breast tumor or lump, the reading of your mammogram, size of your breast, your age, and your feelings about keeping your breast. Your doctor is recommending a **lumpectomy (partial mastectomy)**. The following information has been developed to provide you with information regarding your upcoming surgery. Members of your health care team will review this information with you and answer any questions you may have.

The main advantage of partial mastectomy (breast conserving surgery) plus radiation therapy is **cosmesis**, or how the breast looks with breast preservation. Studies have indicated that the likelihood of survival is the same with mastectomy or partial mastectomy plus radiation therapy.

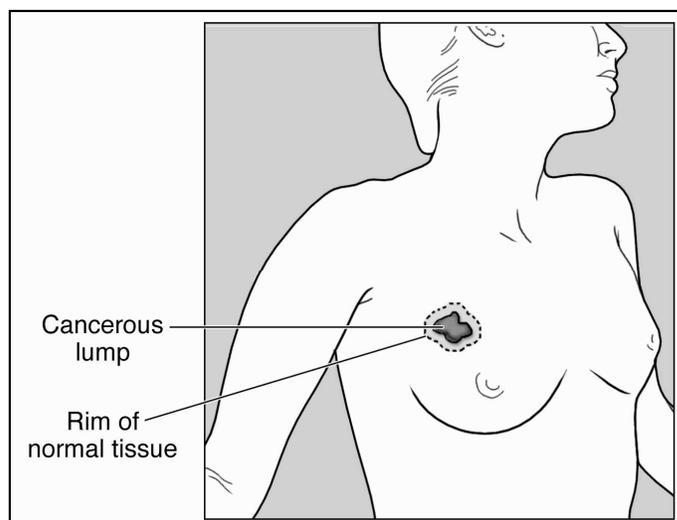
Definitions

Mastectomy- Removal of the entire breast but not the muscles.

Lumpectomy (Partial Mastectomy)- Removal of a portion of the breast with cancer plus a rim of non-cancerous breast tissue surrounding the lump (like a halo)

Pathology Lab Process- The **final** microscopic report takes seven (7) to ten (10) working days. This final report is usually available at the time of the post operative visit.

Radiation Therapy- Radiation therapy is the use of high energy radiation to sterilize the breast. The radiation beam is aimed at the tumor site and the area surrounding it. These treatments are necessary because it is possible that you may have microscopic cancer cells somewhere else in the breast other than the lump that was removed. The radiation treatment you will receive will kill any of these microscopic cancer cells. After your surgery, an appointment will be made for you to see the radiation oncologist. Radiation therapy does not begin for 3-4 weeks following surgery. This is to allow you to heal from the breast surgery and for the final pathology results to be ready.



Activity and Restrictions Should I Follow?

Your nurse will discuss with you activity restrictions that are specific for you. You will be given discharge instructions to follow at home. You may shower but cannot take a tub bath.

Will I Be Admitted to the Hospital?

In most cases, you will go home the same day. Your post-operative clinic appointment will be made for you before your discharge.

What Should I Expect After Surgery?

Approximately one to two weeks after surgery, you will return to the outpatient clinic to see the surgeon. The *final* results (pathology report) will be discussed with you at your post operative visit. At the time of your post operative visit, your surgeon will refer you to other doctors that treat breast cancer such as the Medical Oncologist or Radiation Oncologist.

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