

## Breast Wire Localization

### Who performs this procedure?

It is done by one of our Breast Imaging physicians.

### When is this procedure done?

This procedure will be completed prior to your surgery, before you go into the actual operating room. If you have a myUCLAhealth account, it will appear under your appointment list.

### Where is this procedure done?

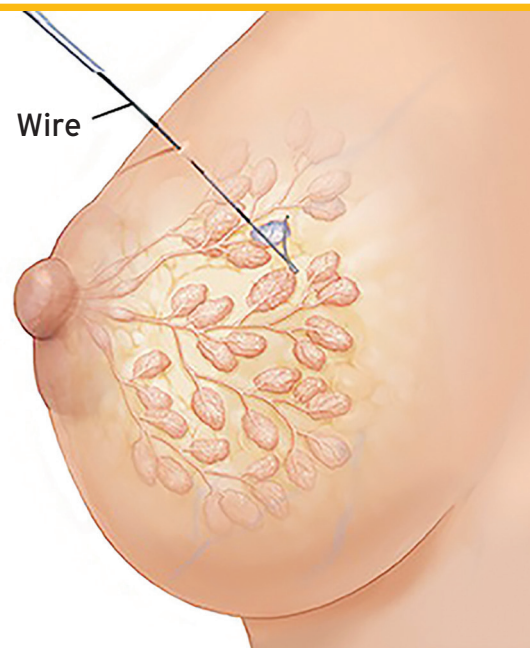
This procedure is done at one of our UCLA Breast Centers, and the exact location (Westwood or Santa Monica) will depend on where you are having your surgery.

### Why is this procedure done?

This procedure is done when abnormal tissue in the breast that forms a lump that can not be easily felt and is only seen on imaging (mammogram, ultrasound or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)).

### How is this procedure done?

Pictures will be taken of your breast to locate the clip that was placed at the time of your biopsy and/or abnormal imaging finding (i.e. mass, calcifications, or other abnormality). If you declined clip placement or do not have a clip, your radiologist will locate the



site as best as possible by identifying the target lesion, any biopsy changes and the appearance of surrounding breast tissue. Pictures will be taken of your breast to locate the clip or the target site.

Your breast will be numbed with local anesthetic, such as Lidocaine, and the skin cleansed with betadine. Please let your doctor know if you have allergies to either of these medications prior to the procedure.

Your radiologist will introduce a thin needle into the breast that ends at the biopsy site. A thin guide wire is threaded through the needle. Depending on the type of localization device used, either the wire and needle may be left in place, or the needle may be removed leaving

## Breast Wire Localization (continued)

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only the wire. Occasionally, more than one wire is placed to “bracket” an area for your surgeon.

Your surgeon will use the wire as a guide to find the abnormal tissue for removal. The wire and the tissue will be removed in surgery.

### **What are the possible risks of this procedure?**

- You may feel discomfort or faint when the needle is placed.
- The wire position may not be exact due to technical issues.
- The wire may move prior to your arrival in the operating room.

The consent form included in this mailing has a more complete list of potential risks. Your UCLA radiology team is very experienced in this procedure and will do everything possible to minimize these risks.