

Getting your results:

Your case will be discussed at a multidisciplinary breast team meeting, in accordance with the Health Information Quality Assurance Guidelines for Symptomatic Breast Disease Services

You are advised to have your partner, close friend or relative with you when you get your results. All results are discussed with you by your breast surgeon. For the majority of women triple assessment will show a benign breast condition. In this case the breast surgeon will explain what it is and whether you need any treatment or follow up.

If your results show that you have breast cancer, you will be put in contact with the breast care nurse who will talk to you about your diagnosis and treatment, and will provide you with support and written information.

It is important for you to know that 90% of women have completely negative results. If you have any concerns regarding attending the breast clinic please contact the Clinical Nurse Specialist in Breast Care Ms. Margaret Burke at 021 4941912.

Key Contacts:

The Bon Secours Specialist Breast Care Centre is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

Enquiries relating to appointments or general information should be directed to:

Specialist Breast Care Centre Reception,

Tel: 021 4941910 / 4941913

Fax: 021 4941911

Enquiries relating to your diagnosis, treatment or to discuss any problems or concerns should be directed to:

Ms Margaret Burke, Breast Care Nurse,

Tel: 021 4941912 Bleep: 206

Breast Care Centre Personnel

Consultant Breast Surgeons:

Mr. D. Gough, Ms. D. O'Hanlon, Mr. M. O'Sullivan,
Mr. B. Whooley

Consultant Radiologists:

Dr. E. Carmody, Dr. D. Kidney, Dr. V. Mc Dermott,
Dr. V. Moran, Dr. G. Thompson, Dr. D. Hill, Dr. P. Smiddy

Consultant Histopathologists:

Dr. E. O'Murchu, Dr. T. Hayes



BON SECOURS HOSPITAL

Specialist Breast Care Centre

College Road, Cork

Tel: 021 4941910

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Bon Secours Specialist Breast Care Centre

A Guide for Patients



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Revision 1, 10/09 Form No. ...

Welcome:

The aim of the Bon Secours Specialist Breast Care Centre is to provide patients with **rapid access** to our **triple assessment clinic**.

Your GP has referred you to the breast clinic based on the National Cancer Control Programme guidelines for the treatment of patient's with symptomatic breast problems. The Breast Multi-disciplinary team includes Surgeons, Radiologists, Pathologists, Oncologists and Nurses. This team works together in order to ensure patients are seen and investigated promptly and once diagnosed, receive the highest standard of individually planned treatment and care.

Triple assessment involves the following:

- Clinical History and Breast Exam
- Mammogram / Ultrasound
- Biopsy if necessary

Getting to the clinic:

St. Monica's Specialist Breast Care Centre is located on the 3rd Floor. Enter the hospital through the main entrance, turn right on the corridor and continue to the end of the corridor, go around to the right at the double doors. At the end of this short corridor turn left and you will see a lift on your left hand side. Take the lift to the 3rd floor, or alternatively take the stairs, located beside the lift. If you require assistance please go to main reception.

When you arrive:

Check in with the receptionist. You may be asked to complete a short form which includes questions about any family history of breast problems and any medications which you are taking e.g. (blood thinners such as Aspirin, Warfarin, Plavix).

You are welcome to bring someone with you but they may be asked to wait in the waiting room.

What to expect at the clinic:

You will be shown to a consult room and asked to undress to the waist and change into a gown which will be provided. A Consultant Breast Surgeon will see you first. He/She will ask you for details of your symptoms. This will be followed by a breast examination. The doctor will determine what further test you may require. This usually includes;

Mammogram is an x-ray of the breast, taken by the radiographer. Two images of each breast will be taken. Some women may find this uncomfortable.

Please avoid using deodorant, talcum powder and body cream on the day of your mammogram. It is important to tell the staff if there is any possibility that you may be pregnant.

Ultrasound uses high frequency sound waves to produce an image of the breast. It is not an x-ray. It is painless and only takes a few minutes to do. If you are under 35, you are more likely to have an ultrasound rather than a mammogram.

Biopsies Your breast surgeon will determine which biopsy technique is most suitable for you.

Ultrasound Guided Core Biopsy uses a needle to take a sample of tissue from a lump or an abnormal area. The procedure is performed by the radiologist under ultrasound guidance.

Stereotactic Core Biopsy is similar to a core biopsy except that it is done by the radiologist under mammogram guidance.

Cyst Aspiration is a simple procedure done by the radiologist to remove fluid, under ultrasound guidance. A needle will be inserted into the cyst and the fluid drained into the syringe. A plaster will be applied. This procedure can be uncomfortable.

After your triple assessment:

You will be seen by your breast surgeon. Follow-up care will be discussed. You will then be advised to make an appointment with the receptionist before you leave.