

## Patient advice sheet

### Breast Screening Assessment Clinic

#### Your appointment

You have been asked to come to the Assessment Clinic following your recent mammogram. This is the second part of the screening process.

Most women who are called back are found to have normal breasts.

#### Before your appointment

It is important that you do not use talcum powder on the day of your appointment. This can sometimes be seen on the breast images. You can use antiperspirant or deodorant.

Please report to reception in The Breast Unit. You should expect to be in the unit for at least 2 hours. You are welcome to bring a relative or friend with you. We suggest that you wear separates on the day of your appointment as it may be easier for you to undress.

#### What happens next?

A member of staff will collect you from the waiting room. The Radiographers are all female and there are also female Breast Care Nurses in clinic.

#### What further tests might be necessary?

**Mammography** - It is often necessary to have more mammograms taken of a specific area of the breast.

**Breast examination** - You will have a breast examination by a clinician specialising in breast conditions.

**Ultrasound** - This test uses sound waves to look at the breast tissue and is done by moving a probe over the surface of your breast. It is a painless procedure and does not use x-rays.

**Breast sampling (Biopsy)** - It may be necessary to take a sample of breast tissue for analysis in the laboratory. This involves taking some breast tissue, using local anaesthetic to numb the area. This is usually done on the day by the clinician in clinic, but sometimes it may be necessary to give you another appointment to return for this test on a different day.

## **When will I get the results?**

Most women will not need any further appointments and will be able to have their results before they leave the clinic.

If you have had breast sampling, the results should be ready in about a week. You will be given an appointment to return to the clinic to get the results before you leave the Assessment Clinic.

Please remember, most women who are called back to the Assessment Clinic are found to have normal breasts.

## **If I have any questions before I come, who can I ask?**

We hope that this leaflet will help you to understand what happens at the breast screening Assessment Clinic. If you have any further questions, please contact the Breast Unit or the Breast Care Nurses. The staff will be happy to answer your questions.

Breast Unit Office: 01494 323300

Breast Care Nurses: 01494 426109 or 01494 426228

Our telephone lines are open every weekday from 9.00am until 4.30pm

Email: [buc-tr.bsu@nhs.net](mailto:buc-tr.bsu@nhs.net)

## **How can I help reduce healthcare associated infections?**

Infection prevention & control is important to the well-being of our patients and for that reason we have infection prevention & control procedures in place. Keeping your hands clean is an effective way of preventing the spread of infections. Please follow our infection prevention and control guidelines when visiting our healthcare sites. Further information is available on our website.

## **Patient Advice Sheet**

If you would like a copy of this information on audiotape, in large print or translated, please call the Patient Advice Liaison Service on 01296 831120 or email [bht.pals@nhs.net](mailto:bht.pals@nhs.net)