



SERVICES OFFERED

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Digital Mammography obtains an electronic image of the breast which is viewed on high resolution computer monitors. This improves visualization of the entire breast especially for denser breast tissue. Mammography is the baseline assessment of the breast.

Breast Ultrasound is an excellent way to evaluate breast abnormalities detected by mammography or palpation. It is important that breast scans be focused to the area of concern. Our radiologists have performed a large number of breast scans and have developed an expertise in interpretation and diagnosis.

Image Guided Needle Core Biopsy is an accurate, less invasive method compared to open surgery to evaluate a suspicious mass. When an area of concern is seen on a mammogram or ultrasound, the radiologist uses imaging to ensure the correct area is biopsied. The procedure takes less than an hour and patient can return home. A pathologist examines the tissue specimens. A definitive diagnosis is generally available within a week. Your health care provider informs you of the results whether benign or cancerous.

Methods to Obtain Tissue Samples

For **Ultrasound Guided Biopsy**, the radiologist locates the mass with an ultrasound probe and numbs the breast with local anesthetic. The biopsy needle location can be seen on the ultrasound scan ensuring accurate tissue sampling. This is the most commonly performed biopsy.

Vacuum-Assisted Core Biopsy is used when larger core specimens are necessary often for suspicious micro-calcifications. Patients can undergo a biopsy without having surgery, reducing scarring. This is performed using either mammography (or ultrasound guidance). The radiologist numbs the area in the breast with local anesthetic and makes a tiny skin nick. Tissue samples are removed through a needle.

Hook-Wire Localization is done before surgery to identify which area of the breast needs to be removed. Because the abnormality is too small to feel, the radiologist images the area of concern and places a tiny wire to assist the surgeon.

Galactogram is a special mammogram to image the milk ducts to see if there is a small tumor within a duct. This is done when discharge from the nipple is a concern.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Breast MRI is not currently recommended for routine screening. It's an excellent tool for assessment of a suspected abnormality. It does not replace either mammography or biopsy.

The sooner a breast concern is investigated, the better the outcome.

Breast Assessment Centre (RQHR) provides patients with a comprehensive evaluation of breast concerns. Patients can undergo required procedures in a single visit.

HEALTH CARE

Services offered:

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- digital mammography
- dedicated breast ultrasound
- image guided needle core biopsy
- vacuum-assisted core biopsy
- hook-wire localization
- galactogram
- breast MRI (at Regina General Hospital)

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The Breast Assessment Centre provides prompt, accurate evaluation of:

HEALTH CARE

- abnormal screening mammography
- clinical abnormality such as a lump, dimpling, changes in shape or discharge
- patients at high risk for breast cancer
- post-cancer patients

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The Canadian Association of Radiologists – Mammography Accreditation Program demands that national standards for breast imaging are achieved and maintained for staff and equipment.

The RQHR Breast Assessment Centre is an ACCREDITED facility.

A health care provider's referral is required.

Request for appointment:

phone: (306) 766-6210 or fax (306) 766-6211

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Visit: www.rqhealth.ca