

# Breast, Core Biopsy

(1.1 Breast\_Core\_Biopsy); Updated September 15th, 2019 by Jeremy Deisch, MD

## SAMPLE DICTATION

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(Labeled: \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_) Received \_\_\_\_ is a/are \_\_\_\_ cores of yellow/tan tissue, measuring \_\_\_\_ cm in diameter and ranging in length from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ cm.

Specimen Handling: (TE, \_\_\_\_ caps)

Cold ischemic time: \_\_\_\_

Duration of fixation: \_\_\_\_

## SUGGESTED SAMPLING

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1-3:

## STAGING CRITERIA (AJCC 8TH EDITION)

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- N/A - tumors are not staged on core biopsy samplings

## ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

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- Nearly all breast core biopsy specimens that show malignancy will require predictive markers (ER/PR/HER2 for invasive breast carcinoma, ER for DCIS). Per CAP/ASCO guidelines, only cases that meet the following guidelines should be used for predictive testing;
  1. **Tissue must be fixed in neutral buffered formalin**
  2. **Biopsy or mastectomy must have a cold ischemic time less than 1 hours**
  3. **The duration of formalin fixation is greater than 6 hours and less than 72 hours**
- Breast biopsy samplings tend to yield larger volumes of tissue than IR-guided narrow-gauge core biopsy specimens. Thus, there is no need to split the cores into multiple blocks (unless the specimen is too large to fit on one cap) or to order unstained slides up front.