

SCHEDULING SENTINEL LYMPH NODE MAPPING IN PATIENTS WITH BREAST CANCER

1. Patients who have had previous radiation or chemotherapy or who have palpable lymph adenopathy or known axillary metastasis are not candidates for sentinel lymph node mapping.
2. If the patient has a **non-palpable breast cancer** (prior core biopsy), the patient will be injected at the Breast Health Center. Since the Breast Center is located on the North Campus, it will be most convenient for the patient if the imaging and surgery is also performed on the North Campus.
3. If the patient has a **palpable breast cancer or a prior excisional biopsy**, the patient will be injected in nuclear medicine at the north campus or the south campus depending on where the patient will be having surgery.
4. Call the operating room to schedule the case. Please request a neoprobe (there is a neoprobe at both the north and the south campus). Because it takes a considerable amount of time for the tracer to migrate from the injection site to the axillary lymph node, the time of injection (usually around 8:00 a.m.) should be scheduled at least 3.5 hours before the time of surgery (12:00 noon).
5. Complete the numbered items on the attached form and fax the completed form to nuclear medicine (north campus - Fax: 454-8254; south campus Fax: 362-0414).
6. Call nuclear medicine (north campus - Voice: 454-8945; south campus Voice: 362-1952) to confirm that the fax was received by nuclear medicine. If the patient will be injected at the Breast Center because they have a non-palpable breast cancer (with a prior core biopsy), call the Breast Center scheduler (pager 360-2712) to schedule a needle localization. The radiopharmaceutical will be injected by the Breast Center at the time of the needle localization.
7. Nuclear medicine will call back to confirm the date, time and place of the injection. If you do not get a return call within 24 hours of faxing the scheduling form, call the nuclear medicine reading room (north campus: 454-7997; south campus: 362-2802).
8. If you have difficulties scheduling a breast lymphoscintigraphy study, page Dr. Henry Royal (Voice: 362-2809; Beeper: 848-7956) or Dr. Keith Fischer (Voice: 454-5641; Beeper: 981-5847).