

Breast biopsy (excisional)

Blue Care Network provides coverage for excisional breast biopsy for adult members who meet medical necessity criteria. Submit authorization requests through e-referral.

The submitter will receive a prompt to complete a questionnaire to determine the appropriateness of the requested service. The questions are listed below.

If all questions are answered, e-referral will either approve or pend the case. If the case pends and BCN cannot authorize it, BCN will contact the provider for additional clinical information. Authorization is not a guarantee of payment.

Payment is based on established claim edits. Compliance with this prior authorization requirement will be monitored retrospectively.

Applicable codes: *19101, *19120, *19125 and *19126

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See below for the questions you'll encounter for breast biopsy (excisional) procedures in the e-referral system.

Breast Biopsy (Excisional)

Answering the question(s) below will provide additional information needed to process your request.

Q Does the patient have physical constraints limiting positioning for stereotactic biopsy?

A Possible answers: Yes No

Q Does the patient have a failed or unsuccessful needle core biopsy (e.g. not enough tissue obtained for analysis; tissue obtained was nondiagnostic; results were inconsistent with findings)?

A Possible answers: Yes No

Q Does the patient have atypical or high risk pathology on a previous core biopsy (e.g. atypical ductal hyperplasia, atypical lobular hyperplasia, atypical fibroadenoma, lobular cancer in situ, papilloma, radial scar)?

A Possible answers: Yes No

See below for the questions you'll encounter for breast biopsy (excisional) procedures in the e-referral system. (continued)

You must answer each question by choosing either Yes, No, Not Applicable or another appropriate option.

Breast Biopsy (Excisional)

Answering the question(s) below will provide additional information needed to process your request.

Q Does the patient have a palpable breast mass in a FEMALE that is very superficial or located beneath the nipple or areola?

A

Possible answers: Yes No N/A Male

Q Does the patient have a palpable breast mass in a MALE that is very superficial or located beneath the nipple or areola that is NOT associated with male gynecomastia?

A

Possible answers: Yes No N/A Female

Q Does the patient have suspicious palpable findings AND EITHER in an unfavorable location OR too small for palpation-guided core biopsy and/or negative imaging?

A

Possible answers: Yes No

Q Does the patient have a significantly painful or tender mass that is persistent?

A

Possible answers: Yes No

Q Does the patient have recurrence of a breast cyst in the same area EITHER after having two aspiration procedures OR within 8 weeks after complete disappearance with an aspiration?

A

Possible answers: Yes No

See below for the questions you'll encounter for breast biopsy (excisional) procedures in the e-referral system. (continued)

You must answer each question by choosing either Yes, No, Not Applicable or another appropriate option.

Breast Biopsy (Excisional)

Answering the question(s) below will provide additional information needed to process your request.

Q Does the patient have new mammographic mass or calcifications which are not amenable to image-guided core biopsy?

A Possible answers: Yes No

Q Does the patient have inflammatory skin or nipple changes (e.g. ulceration, redness, excoriation, superficial loss of skin)?

A Possible answers: Yes No

Q Does the patient have EITHER a KNOWN fibroadenoma increasing in size on ultrasound in a patient of any age OR LIKELY fibroadenoma >2cm in a patient <25 years of age AND patient uncomfortable with having image guided needle biopsy under local anesthesia?

A Possible answers: Yes No

Q Does the patient have bloody fluid OR positive fluid cytology (abnormal or suspicious cells) identified by aspiration of a breast cyst?

A Possible answers: Yes No

Q Does the patient have spontaneous localized bloody nipple discharge OR non-bloody nipple discharge from a single duct identified on physical exam or positive ductogram?

A Possible answers: Yes No

Q Does the patient have a confirmed diagnosis of breast cancer?

A Possible answers: Yes No