



Tampa Bay Breast Care Specialists

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is there anything I should do before coming in for my visit?

A: Prior to coming to our office, please fill out our new patient forms which can be obtained from this website.

Q: Do I need an insurance authorization to schedule an appointment or receive care from your office?

A: Check with your insurance company if you will need an authorization. If you do require an insurance authorization, you must get the referral and/or authorization from your primary care physician or OB/GYN.

Q: What should I bring to my first office visit?

A: Any patient who is coming to our office for the first time should bring any recent films (mammograms, ultrasounds, MRI, or PET scans) or biopsy pathology results. If you do not have your films with you, please have them sent by courier to our office. If you had your films completed at UCH, Tower Diagnostics, or BayCare Imaging we can obtain them via an online website. We also request that you bring your insurance card and drivers license.

Q: If I need a biopsy completed, can Dr. Cox perform the biopsy during my visit?

A: Our office is fully capable of performing the biopsy in office depending on the size and location of the area of concern.

Q: If my biopsy is performed in office, when can I anticipate that I will receive my pathology results?

A: Depending on pathology, we usually receive results in 2-4 business days. Once we receive them and Dr. Cox reviews them. Our office will call you with the results.

Q: Will I be expected to pay my co-pay the day of my visit?

A: Yes, you will be expected to pay your insurance co-pays at the time of your visit.

Q: I don't have health insurance, can I still see Dr. Cox?

A: Yes, but you will be expected to pay out of pocket at the time of your visit.

Q: If I have a strong family history of breast cancer, do you have any genetic testing that can be done during my visit?

A: Yes, we can perform BRACA Analysis testing or we can refer you to a genetics counselor. Once the BRACA analysis testing is performed, it takes at least 2 weeks for us to receive the results.

Q: Is BRACA Analysis covered by my insurance?

A: Not always. You will need to obtain authorization from your insurance carrier.

Authorization of Procedures and Billing

When we schedule your surgery, we will call your insurance company to verify coverage and get authorization. If we have any issue obtaining authorization, we will call you immediately. If you decide to pay out of pocket or if your insurance does not cover, our billing department will give you an estimation of how much your procedure will cost, as well as make payment arrangements. We are only responsible for the billing of the surgery our surgeon performs, so keep in mind that depending on the complexity of your situation, you may receive bills from the surgical facility where the surgery takes place, the radiologist, and the pathologist, just to name a few.

You should contact our office if you experience any of the following:

- You have a fever over 101.5 during the first week after surgery.
- Your wound feels tight and you are experiencing extreme pain.
- Your breast is extremely bruised other than around the surgical site.
- You are experiencing excessive nausea and/or vomiting.
- Blood continues to leak from your dressing. While you are trying to contact us, use a towel to hold firm pressure on your wound.

If your situation becomes a life-threatening or emergency situation, please call 911 or go straight to the Emergency Room. Please notify us so we may assist you and care for your needs.