

# Insertion of a breast coil marker for Neoadjuvant chemotherapy prior to surgery

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**This leaflet explains what a breast coil marker is and why it is used. If you have any questions about the marker or the procedure to insert it, please speak to your breast screening specialist nurse.**

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1. The coil marker is used to aid visibility of abnormal breast tissue or calcifications on both x-rays and ultrasound. This will help to ensure the abnormal area can be accurately identified prior to surgery.
2. The coil marker is inserted with local anaesthetic, either guided by ultrasound or mammogram.
3. The coil is very small (few millimetres) in size and made from either titanium or stainless steel. It is safe for you to have MRI scans or passing through airport security (no bleeping).
4. The coil will be seen on a mammogram and may often be seen on ultrasound.
5. The coil will usually be removed at the time of surgery.

## More information

If there are any problems or queries please contact Carolyn Denham, Breast Screening Clinical Nurse Specialist on 0118 322 8563. Out of normal working hours, please contact your GP.

To find out more about our Trust visit [www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk](http://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk)

**Please ask if you need this information in another language or format.**

C Denham, Breast Screening CNS, May 2023  
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