LUMPECTOMY AND PARTIAL MASTECTOMY

Lumpectomy and partial mastectomy are surgical procedures that remove the breast lesion and some normal tissue but not the entire breast. The amount of breast tissue removed is dependent of the size of the lesion. With larger lesions, up to 15-20% of the breast tissue may be removed.

If the lesion cannot be felt on exam, a needle localization procedure may be performed to mark the region of abnormal tissue prior to your surgery.

If your surgery is being performed for a cancerous lesion, it may also include a lymph node biopsy to investigate the extent of the cancer. When lumpectomy and partial mastectomy are performed for cancer, surgery is often followed by radiation therapy to reduce the rate of recurrence. Radiation therapy is started after you have healed from your surgery.