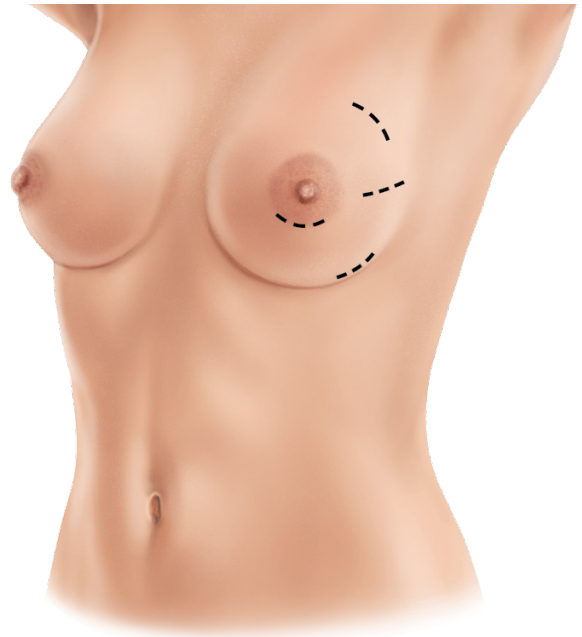


## What is a lumpectomy or partial mastectomy?

It is a surgery to remove a lump of breast tissue or just part of the breast. This procedure helps keep most of your breast while removing the cancer and some normal breast tissue surrounding it. The amount of breast tissue removed and type of incision used will depend on the location and size of the breast cancer. This picture shows examples of different incisions used with lumpectomy.



## Why choose a lumpectomy?

It is an effective way to remove a cancer and maintain the healthy tissue of the breast. It is generally a shorter surgery and faster recovery than a mastectomy.

## How is a lumpectomy done?

Once you are asleep with anesthesia, the surgeon will make an incision to remove the cancer if it can be felt.

If the cancer is not able to be felt, a special marker (Magseed®\*) will have been placed by a radiologist using ultrasound or mammography before surgery. This marker can then be detected by a handheld probe used in the OR by the surgeon to guide them towards the cancer or tissue to be removed.

Once the tissue is removed, some surrounding tissue may be loosened to fill the area. Sutures are used in layers to close the lumpectomy site and will dissolve over time.

A sentinel lymph node biopsy\* may be performed during the same surgery as a lumpectomy. This is a procedure that helps determine if the cancer has spread beyond the breast.

\*For more information about Magseed® and/or Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy, please review the additional handout information on these topics.