

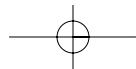
In 1963, Women's College Hospital was the first hospital in Canada to use mammography as a routine diagnostic tool. In 1977, the Henrietta Banting Breast Centre was established to provide management of breast disease for women.

The Women's College Hospital breast program encompasses breast cancer prevention, early detection, diagnosis, treatment and care, and research in breast disease and public and professional education. We are committed to a philosophy of integrated, interdisciplinary, timely and comprehensive programs and services.

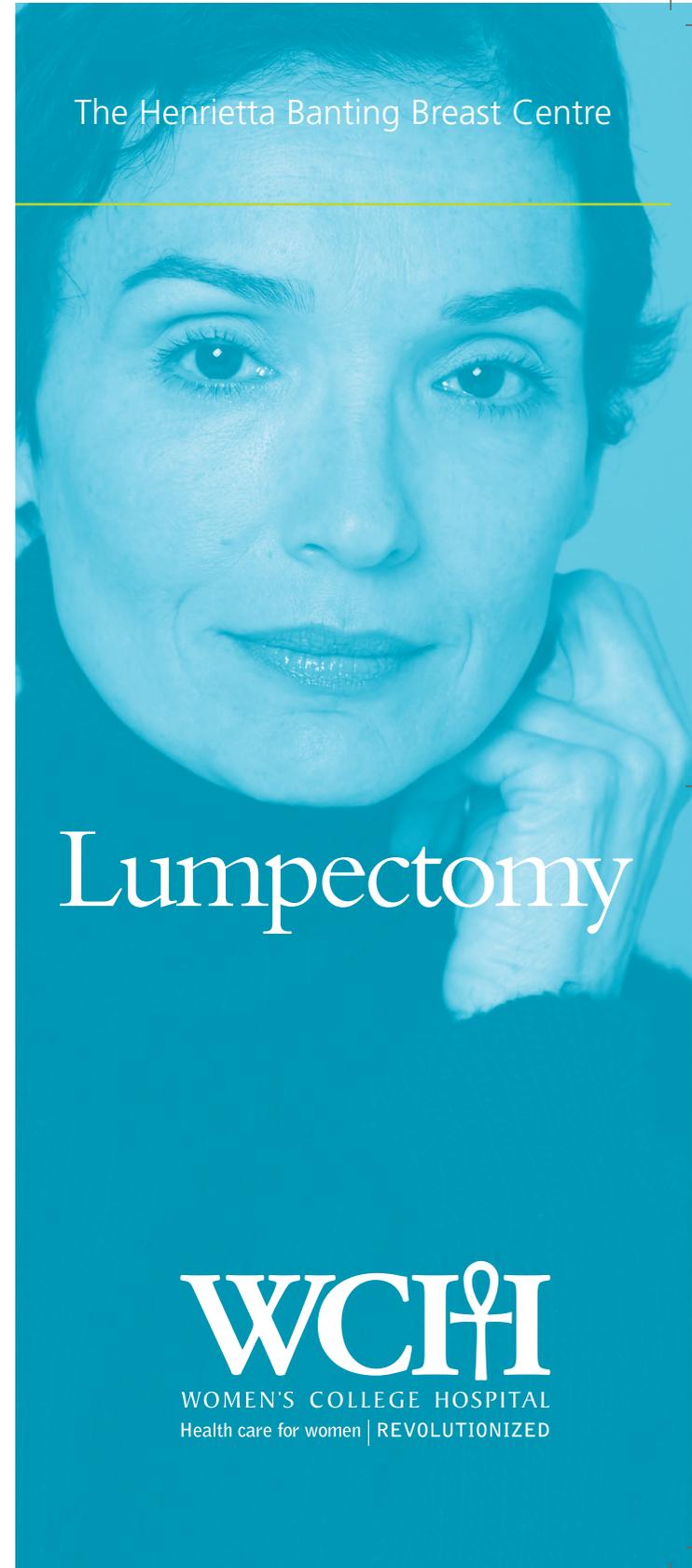


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Form No. F-2418



The Henrietta Banting Breast Centre



# Lumpectomy



## What is a lumpectomy?

A lumpectomy is breast surgery that removes only the area of concern and a small amount of normal tissue around it. The rest of the healthy breast tissue is left in place. Other names for this operation are breast-conserving surgery, partial mastectomy, wedge resection or segmental resection. The amount of tissue removed from the breast depends on the size of the lump or area of concern.

## What happens during surgery?

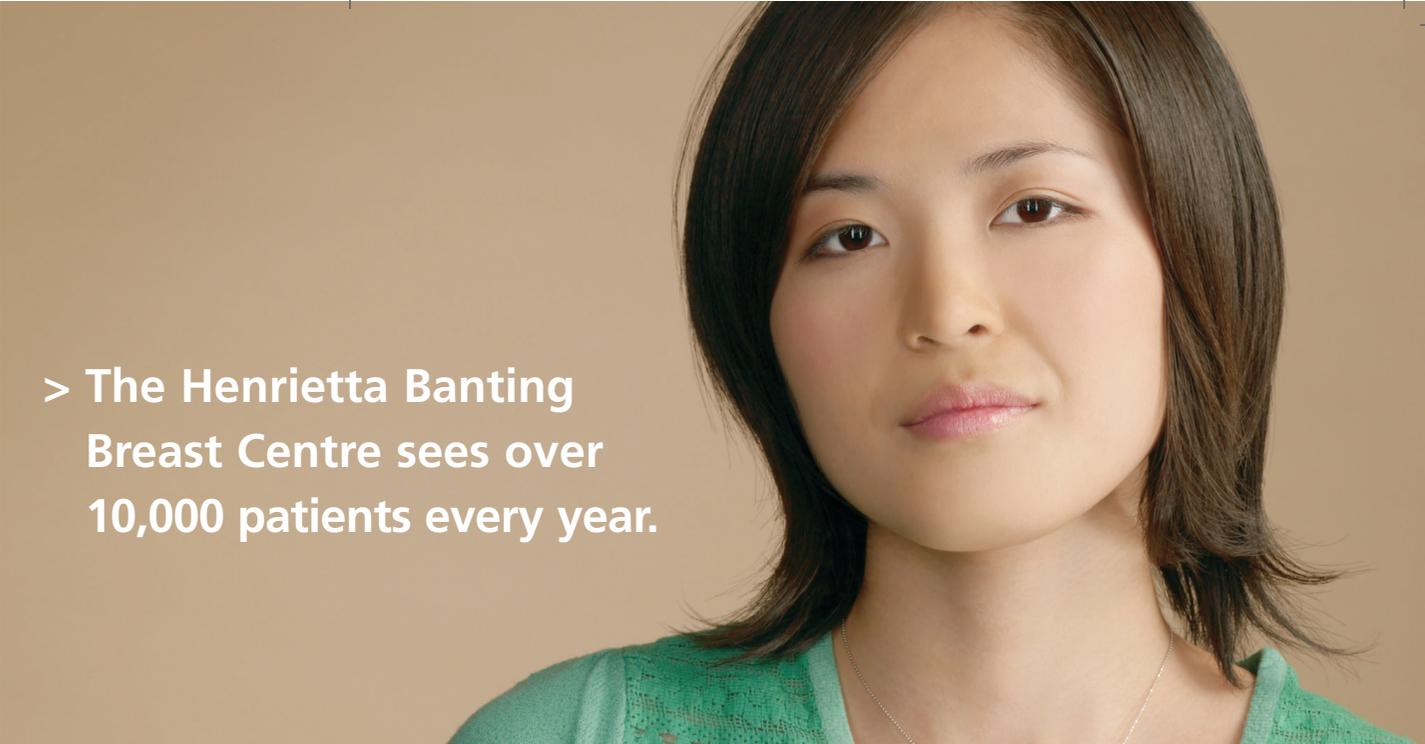
A cut (incision) will be made over the area that needs to be removed. The surgeon will then remove the entire area plus some normal tissue around it. All the tissue removed is then sent to the lab to be examined very carefully by the pathologist. The cut is then closed with absorbable stitches. Skin tapes (steri-strips) are usually applied over the incision and then a dry dressing is placed over them.

## What happens after surgery?

After your operation is finished, you will be taken to the recovery room, and then transferred to the surgical day care unit. When you are awake you will be sent home with the adult who will accompany you. It is illegal for you to drive a car for 24 hours after your operation.

### You may:

- have a sore throat from the breathing tube that was in place during your operation
- feel sick to your stomach and tired from the drugs you were given to make you sleep
- have pain – if so, take the prescribed pain medication as needed (you may also use Tylenol Extra Strength or Advil)
- have bruising and swelling around the cut (incision)



> The Henrietta Banting Breast Centre sees over 10,000 patients every year.

### You can:

- resume your normal activities in one or two (1 or 2) days
- shower as usual in two (2) days (after outer dressing has been removed)
- eat your usual diet and drink plenty of fluids
- wear a good supportive bra (day and night) to help decrease pain and reduce swelling

### You are advised not to:

- do heavy housework, sports, or heavy lifting for two (2) weeks (over 10 pounds is heavy)
- drive a motor vehicle or drink alcohol for 24 hours, or while you are taking your prescription pain medication

### Care of the incision

Leave the outer dressing on for 48 hours, and then you can remove it. Leave the white skin strips in place for 10 days following your operation if they have not already peeled off.

### Call your doctor if:

- your incision becomes red, swollen or very tender to touch
- the whole breast is swollen
- you develop a fever of 38 C or 100 F for over 24 hours
- you have excessive bleeding or unusual drainage on the dressing from the incision site (“excessive” means a “soaked” dressing)
- you have severe pain not relieved by the prescribed pain medication

Sometimes after an operation like this, fluid may collect around the wound. You may “hear” the fluid. This is not unusual. If the area becomes quite hard and swollen, call your doctor and make an appointment. Although this is not an urgent matter, some of the fluid can be drained and this can make you more comfortable.