

Magnetic Seed General Guidelines

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Magseed (Endomag):

- Extremely small markers made of high-grade stainless steel, placed inside a lesion to help guide the surgeon to the exact location of the cancer.
- The marker is inert, and becomes detectable when a (Sentimag) probe used by the surgeon is passed near the marker to produce a magnetic signal.
- Can be placed under ultrasound or mammographic guidance
- Can be placed for greater than 30 days, with no upper limit, enabling a more efficient and flexible organization of workflow

Contraindications:

- Cannot be used in patients with pacemakers (due to the magnetic field created by the pacemaker in the presence of the probe)
- Seeds may limit the use of MRI due to a 4cm signal-void artifact. This may hamper use of MRI for pre-op planning or in follow-up assessment after neoadjuvant therapy.
- Theoretical depth limitation of 4cm, but in practice adequate breast compression can usually be achieved to locate the marker
- Tolerated well by patients with metal allergies, as the seed contains less than 2% nickel content

For the Surgeon:

- Discuss whether to place seeds under ultrasound or mammography with the radiologist
- Review placement of every seed with the radiologist

For the Radiologist:

- Note when seeds must be placed under mammography and indicate the same in the report
- Review placement of every seed with the surgeon

General Guidelines:

- Seeds can be placed on a flexible basis, weeks or months before a surgery date.
- In the event individuals have a long drive to a diagnostic or surgical location, seeds can be placed the day of, or within a few days of, the surgery date.
- Post clip mammograms can be performed the same day
- Consider placing a seed during a biopsy in the following situation:
 - BIRADS 5 lesion (definite malignancy) in patients with Density category A or B (ie. patients for whom pre-op MRI will likely not be indicated)
- Do not place a seed in the following situation:
 - Uncertain if lesion is malignant
 - Young patient or dense breasts (i.e. patients who may undergo MRI imaging)

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