NHS Breast Screening Programme Breast Assessment Pathway

The woman should have access to a clinical nurse specialist (CNS) at every stage in the pathway, and should be advised how to contact the CNS after her return to routine recall.

- Telephone support and information on the assessment process from CNS if woman phones the unit on receipt of second stage screening invitation.

- CNS meets woman at the start of the assessment process. Explanation of reason for recall, psychological, physical and social assessment.

Further Views
+/- ultrasound
+/- clinical examination

Breast biopsy

- Post biopsy CNS consultation with woman
- Verbal explanation of next stage of pathway
- Biopsy leaflet
- Contact details
- Biopsy results appointment

Multidisciplinary team (MDT) meeting presentation and discussion of case. CNS is a core member of MDT and must be present during discussion of cases and to agree a final outcome.

Benign outcome. Planned care is to reassure and return to routine recall or advise can self-refer if 71 or over.

- If patient choice, CNS to phone to give results*. Give breast awareness info and discuss in person if the women still wishes to attend.

- Organise results letter and information leaflet

Indeterminate outcome. Planned care is further diagnostic investigations.

- Attend results clinic to see clinician as arranged, in presence of CNS.

Malignant outcome. Planned care is the treatment pathway.

- Attend results clinic as arranged and CNS supports woman through repeat biopsy if required.

- Diagnostic excision - management of B3 lesion.

- Organise results letter and information leaflet

* Only benign results discussed over the phone