



Glossary Terms

MarginProbe™: An investigational device that uses patent-protected, proprietary radio frequency (RF) spectroscopy to help physicians intraoperatively distinguish in real-time cancerous tissue from healthy tissue. The system, which is currently under clinical development, and investigational trials by Dune Medical Devices, consists of a hand-held disposable probe and a console unit that provides control system, data input, data processing and display.

Breast-conserving surgery: Any form of tumor removal surgery that removes only part of the breast is considered "breast-conserving" or "breast preservation" surgery. Examples include: open biopsy, lumpectomy, partial mastectomy, re-excision, quadrantectomy and wedge resection.

Clear margins: Also referred to as negative margins, it indicates that there are no cancerous cells in the outer layer of healthy tissue surrounding the tumor.

Excisional biopsy: Also known as open biopsy. It is a type of surgery that takes out an entire small lump or suspicious area to be checked under a microscope.

Intraoperative: Occurring during the course of surgery.

Lumpectomy: Also known as partial mastectomy. A common surgical procedure designed to remove a discrete lump (usually a tumor, that was previously diagnosed as malignant) from an affected woman's breast. As the tissue removed is generally limited and the procedure relatively less radical (compared to a complete removal of a breast in a mastectomy for example), a lumpectomy is considered a viable means of "breast conservation" or "breast preservation" surgery, with all the attendant physical and emotional advantages of such an approach.

Mastectomy: Surgery that removes the whole breast.

Margins of resection: The distance between the actual tumor and the edge of the excised specimen.

Pathologist: A specialist in pathology who practices chiefly in the laboratory as a consultant to clinical colleagues.

Pathology: The study and diagnosis of the structural and functional changes in cells, tissues and organs that underlie disease.

Positive margins: Also known as involved margins. Cancer cells extend out to the edge of the excised specimen.

Probe: A generic term used to refer to a device used to gather information. The word probe is also used to describe surgical instruments, such as a laparoscope, a device that assists with surgery on the human body by allowing doctors to see and manipulate organs without making large incisions.

Re-excision: Also referred to as re-excision lumpectomy. The procedure involves going back into the area where a patient has had either a lumpectomy or excisional biopsy and taking out an additional layer of tissue that previously surrounded the tumor. Surgeons will perform a re-excision procedure if the margins of resection show cancer cells close to the edge of the tissue removed during the first surgery.

Resection: Using surgery to take out tissue, part or all of an organ.

Tissue margins: The edges of an excised (or resected) surgical specimen. The margins are examined by a pathologist to evaluate if the disease (the cancer) has been completely removed.

*Sources include: www.breastcancer.org