

When you are coming into hospital for breast surgery

Mastectomy

Bring in to hospital:

Please bring with you a well-fitted, supportive bra to wear once any bulky dressings are removed.

If your bra has an under-wire, it is advisable to remove the wire from the side you are having the surgery on.

Temporary prosthesis:

You will be fitted with a soft form, temporary prosthesis to wear in your bra, once bulky dressings are removed.

The bra can be worn whilst any drain tubes are in place. When fitting the bra, just ensure that the tubing does not have any tight pressure or kinks to obstruct drainage.

Free bra & prosthesis:

A free bra and soft form, temporary prosthesis will be ordered for you by your Breast Care Nurse, who will need to enquire about your bra size & details to place the order with Breast Cancer Network Australia (BCNA). The bra & prosthesis are provided by Berlei & BCNA.

It is hoped to have the order delivered for your use in hospital, but sometimes there are delays with delivery, so it is advisable for you to bring in a supportive, wire free bra with you to wear if the order has not arrived. Your free bra will be given to you as soon as possible on delivery.

Provision of first permanent prosthesis:

Once your wound has healed adequately (approximately 4-6 weeks after surgery), it will be time to arrange fitting for a silicon filled prosthesis to fit inside your bra. Your Breast Care Nurse will discuss with you the process for this.

The hospital will provide a purchase order to the retailer of your choice, to assist with the purchase of your first prosthesis to a nominated value of \$200. Prices for prostheses can range from \$200-\$400. Costs above \$200 are out of pocket expenses & depend upon personal choice of product.

On receipt of this purchase order, you need to make an appointment with the nominated retailer to arrange a fitting time. They will discuss appropriate prostheses for your needs.

Any queries, please call the Breast Care Nurse on 8345 6896