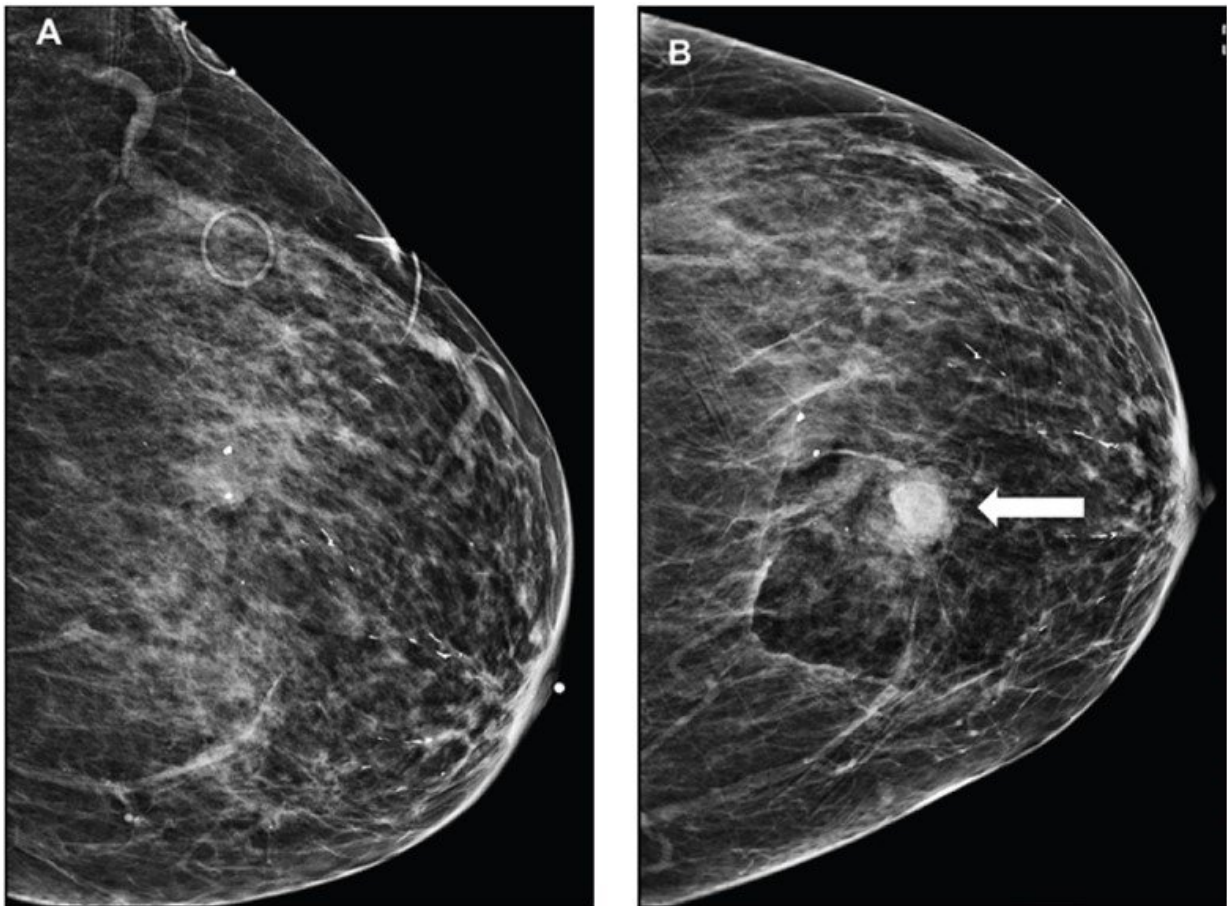


Bleeding after image-guided breast biopsies: Discontinuing vs. maintaining antithrombotic therapy

May 10 2023



Left craniocaudal (CC) mammographic view obtained before (A) and after (B) biopsy show hematoma on postbiopsy image (arrow), measuring 1.2 cm. Credit: ARRS/AJR

According to a study published in the *American Journal of Roentgenology (AJR)*, frequencies of imaging-apparent and palpable hematoma were not significantly different between patients temporarily discontinuing versus maintaining antithrombotic therapy (AT).

"The findings support safety of continuing AT during breast core-needle biopsy (CNB)," wrote lead researcher Melissa Reichman, MD, of Weill Cornell Medicine at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, adding that patients who maintain AT should be counseled regarding risk of bruise.

This *AJR* study included 5,302 patients ([median age](#), 52 years) who underwent image-guided breast or axillary CNB between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2019. From January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016, patients temporarily discontinued all AT for 5 days before CNB; from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019, the cohort maintained AT during CNB.

After reviewing immediate post-biopsy mammograms for apparent hematoma, patients were then called 24-48 hours post-procedure and asked about palpable hematoma and breast bruise. Reichman et al. then reviewed [medical records](#) for clinically significant post-biopsy hematoma: hematoma requiring [drainage](#), [primary care](#) or emergency department visit for persistent symptoms, or hospital admission. Finally, bleeding events were compared among groups.

Ultimately, imaging-apparent hematoma occurred in 3%, 6%, and 7%; palpable hematoma in 2%, 4%, and 4%; and breast bruise in 2%, 1%, and 6%, of patients without AT use, patients discontinuing AT, and patients maintaining AT, respectively, during breast CNB. The authors also reported that no patient developed clinically significant [hematoma](#) after biopsy.

Noting their findings "support the overall safety of maintaining AT

during breast CNB," Reichman and colleagues concluded that developing concomitant institutional policies and professional guidelines should be considered, too.

More information: Melissa Reichman et al, Bleeding Events After Image-Guided Breast Biopsies: Comparison of Patients Temporarily Discontinuing Versus Maintaining Antithrombotic Therapy During Biopsy, *American Journal of Roentgenology* (2023). [DOI: 10.2214/AJR.23.29164](https://doi.org/10.2214/AJR.23.29164)

Provided by American Roentgen Ray Society

Citation: Bleeding after image-guided breast biopsies: Discontinuing vs. maintaining antithrombotic therapy (2023, May 10) retrieved 21 June 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2023-05-image-guided-breast-biopsies-discontinuing-antithrombotic.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--