Nipple discharge refers to fluid that comes out of one or both breast nipples.

**What Causes Nipple Discharge?**
Many conditions can cause nipple discharge:
- A side effect from certain medications
- A growth in the pituitary gland
- A growth in the breast
- An underactive thyroid (called hypothyroid)
- Pregnancy
- Breast cancer

**Normal Nipple Discharge**
Some women can squeeze out a small amount of yellowish, greenish, or brownish discharge. Women who are pregnant or have recently given birth may have a milky discharge.

**Abnormal Nipple Discharge**
Nipple discharge that comes out without squeezing or that is clear or bloody may be caused by an abnormal growth in the breast. It may also be a sign of cancer.

**Should I Call My Doctor?**
If you have nipple discharge that looks abnormal or that worries you, see your health care provider. He or she will find out if you need any tests. These could include a mammogram, breast ultrasound, exam of the breast ducts, or other test to help find the cause of the discharge.

**Where Can I Get More Information?**
Contact Huntsman Cancer Institute’s Breast Imaging Clinic at 801-213-4269 or the G. Mitchell Morris Cancer Learning Center:
- Call toll free 1-888-424-2100
- Visit the sixth floor of the cancer hospital
- E-mail patient.education@hci.utah.edu
- Text “askhci” to 66746