

Screening Mammography Standard Protocol

The goal of mammography is the detection, characterization, and evaluation of findings suggestive of breast cancer and other breast diseases. It is important for an individual to discuss their breast health and concerns with their primary care provider.

The American College of Radiology has set practice parameters for annual screening mammography as indicated below:

1. Annual mammograms are recommended for women age 40 and older who have no current problems and are at an average risk for breast cancer.
2. Women under the age of 40, who have no current problems but have an increased risk for breast cancer, may begin annual screening mammography starting around age 30. These women of higher risk include:
 - Women with known mutation or genetic syndrome with increased breast cancer risk.
 - Annually starting by age 30, but not before age 25.
 - Untested women with a first-degree relative with known BRCA mutation.
 - Annually starting by age 30, but not before age 25.
 - Women with a 20% or greater lifetime risk for breast cancer based on breast cancer risk models.
 - Annually starting by age 30, but not before age 25, or 10 years earlier than the age at which the youngest first-degree relative was diagnosed, whichever is later.
 - Women with a history of chest (mantle) radiation received between the ages of 10 and 30.
 - Annually starting 8 years after the radiation therapy, but not before age 25.
 - Women with biopsy-proven lobular neoplasia, atypical ductal hyperplasia (ADH), ductal carcinoma in-situ (DCIS), invasive breast cancer, or ovarian cancer *should begin annual screening from the time of diagnosis, regardless of age.*

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