

Breast screening guide for GPs

Routine mammography is the most effective way to detect breast cancer early.



All asymptomatic women over 40 are eligible for breast screening*

- Women aged 50 to 74 are invited every two years.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are recommended to screen from 40 years.
- For women aged over 74, it is recommended that GPs discuss with patients whether routine breast screening is a health priority.
- Find information on [screening intervals and breast cancer risk assessment here](#).



Booking an appointment

- Book online at book.breastscreen.nsw.gov.au
- Call **13 20 50**.
- Call **13 14 50** for interpreter assistance.
- For screening locations, visit breastscreen.nsw.gov.au/mammogram-appointment/locations
- No referral required.



Screening appointment

- Takes 20 minutes.
- All female radiographers.
- Patient consent and details are required.
- At least two breast imaging specialists independently read the mammograms.
- Results are provided in approximately two weeks.
- With patient consent, the GP is provided with results.



Recall for investigation

- The patient may be asked to return for further tests.
- Investigations may include mammography, tomosynthesis (3D), ultrasound, clinical examination and needle biopsy.
- With patient consent, the GP is provided with results.
- On diagnosis of breast cancer, the patient will be advised to discuss treatment options with their GP and request a referral to a breast specialist.



GP follow up

- GPs are urged to place a rescreen reminder in their records for the patient's next mammogram.
- Learn how to increase screening participation rates at your practice by visiting the [Primary Care Quality Improvement Toolkit](#).

*Symptomatic women should be referred to diagnostic breast imaging and/or a breast surgeon.