

An Overview of Breast Cancer Screening Recommendations

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Abstract

Breast Cancer is the most common type of cancer in women and the second leading cause of cancer related deaths next to lung cancer. Although men can also get breast cancer, cases of male breast cancer account for less than 0.05% of all breast cancer diagnosed. If eight women live to the age of 85, at least one of them will develop breast cancer in her lifetime. Two-thirds of women diagnosed with breast cancer are over the age of 50, and the majority of remaining is between age of 39 and 40. Still there lies some confusion when it comes to Breast Cancer screening. So here are some recommendations for breast cancer screening.

Keywords: Breast Cancer; Screening; Carcinomas; Women; Age

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Definitely beneficial, recommended: Mammogram every 2 years for women age 50-74.

Genetic counseling and possible testing for women with evidence of high risk family history which includes:

- Two 1st degree relatives with breast cancer, including age>50.
- Three or more 1st or 2nd degree relative with breast cancer.
- 1st or 2nd degree relative with breast and ovarian cancer.
- 1st degree relative with bilateral breast cancer.
- Breast Cancer in a male relative.

Ashkenazi Jewish women with any 1st or 2nd degree relative with breast or ovarian cancer

- Possibly Beneficial, Individualize: Mammogram in women before age 50.
- Definitely not Beneficial, Not Recommended: Breast self examination at any age.

Genetic testing for women without high risk family history

Uncertain Benefit: Mammogram in women age>age 75, Clinical Breast examination, MRI of the breasts [1-10].

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