



Breast Tomosynthesis Imaging

What is tomosynthesis?

Tomosynthesis Imaging is a type of Mammogram that produces 3D images of your breast. These images are created using x-rays and computer software.

How is this different from a normal mammogram?

A standard mammogram involves 2 x-ray images of each breast and is called 2D. A tomosynthesis (3D) mammogram still involves 2 images per breast but takes multiple low dose mammograms over many angles per image. These images are then combined in a computer program to make a 3D image.

While the test involves taking more individual xrays, the individual images are extremely low dose. While the total radiation dose is greater than a routine mammogram, the extra radiation the test is still within safe guidelines.

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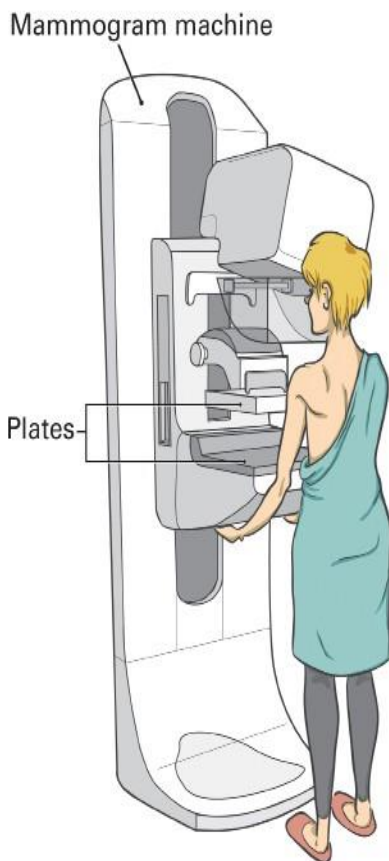
Why do I need breast tomosynthesis?

This test will provide a clearer and more detailed image of the inside of your breast. The benefit of using tomosynthesis on your first mammogram, is to reduce the chance of having to return for extra images. For patients returning for extra images, it provides a faster more definitive assessment.

This type of mammogram will not be performed on everyone. The indications, as per above, were developed by our radiologists, using best practice guidelines.

What happens during a breast tomosynthesis?

1. You will stand in front of the mammogram machine.
2. The technologist will position you as she does for a regular mammogram.
3. The machine will move in an arc over your head. It will take the x-ray images as it moves. This lasts for only a few seconds.
4. The 3D image is then made from these images.



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