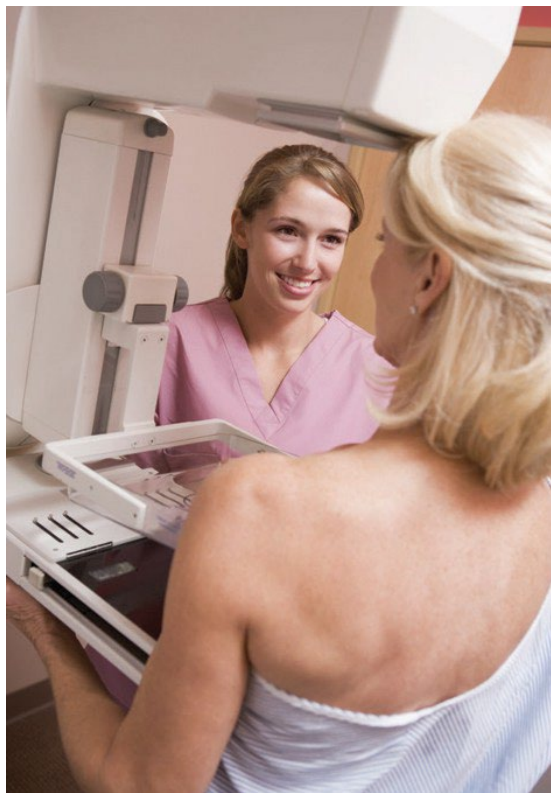




Why do I need this test?

A mammogram is an X-Ray of your breasts. Doctors use a mammogram to look for early signs of breast cancer. Regular mammograms can find breast cancer early.



What happens before the test?

- Describe any breast symptoms or problems to your provider before scheduling your mammogram
- Obtain your prior mammogram images if they were done at a different location
- Do not use powders, deodorants or body lotions under your arms or on your breasts before your exam
- Upon arrival, you will be shown to a room where you will remove all clothing and jewelry from the waist up
- We recommend wearing a two-piece outfit

What happens during the test?

- You will stand in front of a special X-Ray machine. A technologist will place your breast on a plate. Another plate will firmly press your breast from above. The plates will flatten the breast, holding it still while the X-Ray is being taken. You will feel some pressure.
- You will then wait while the technologist checks the X-Rays to make sure the pictures do not need to be redone. Keep in mind that the technologist cannot tell you the results of your mammogram. Each mammogram may look a little different because all breasts are a little different. A doctor with special training, called a radiologist, will look at the X-Ray for early signs of breast cancer or other problems.
- Having a mammogram is uncomfortable for most patients. Some patients find it painful. A mammogram takes only a few moments, though, and the discomfort is over soon. What you feel depends on the skills of the technologist, the size of your breasts, and how much they need to be pressed. Your breasts may be more sensitive if you are about to get or have your period

When will I get the results of my mammogram?

A radiologist reads your mammogram and then reports the results to you and your doctor within one week. If there is a concern, you will hear from the mammography facility earlier.

What happens if my mammogram is normal?

Continue to get mammograms according to recommended time intervals. Mammograms work best when they can be compared with previous exams. This allows the radiologist to compare them to look for changes in your breasts.

What happens if my mammogram is abnormal?

An abnormal mammogram does not always mean that there is cancer. But you may need to have additional mammograms, tests, or exams before the doctor can tell for sure. You may also be referred to a breast specialist or a surgeon. It does not necessarily mean that you have cancer or need surgery. These doctors are experts in diagnosing breast problems. Doctors will do follow-up tests to diagnose breast cancer or to find that there is no cancer.

What is 3D Mammography?

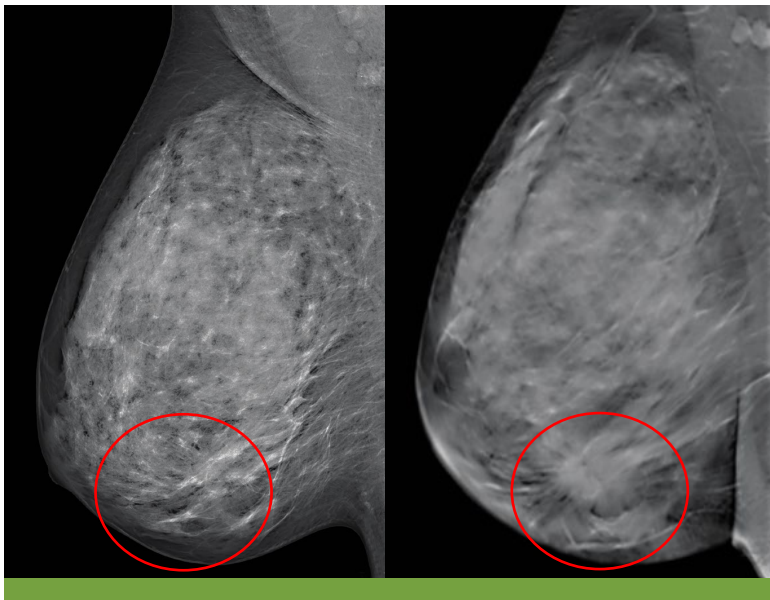
3D mammography also called breast tomosynthesis is a state-of-the-art technology which gives radiologist the ability to view inside the breast layer by layer, helping to see the fine details more clearly by minimizing overlapping tissue. During a 3D mammogram, multiple low-dose images known as “slices” of the breast are acquired at different angles. With 3D technology, the radiologist can view a mammogram in a way never before possible.

What are the benefits?

- **Increased cancer detection:** Can increase cancer detection by up to 34% compared to 2D alone.
- **Better visualization of dense tissue:** 3D Mammography has an advantage particularly in women with dense breasts. 50% of women fall into this category and 3D mammography increases the detection rate of cancer in dense breasts by to 80% compared to 59% with regular 2D mammography.
- **Earlier detection:** By minimizing overlapping breast tissue
- **Better visualization:** 3D mammography helps distinguish harmless abnormalities from the real cancers, leading to fewer callbacks and less anxiety for women.

2D Digital Mammography

3D Tomosynthesis



Is 3D Mammography (Breast Tomosynthesis) a separate exam or part of my usual mammogram?

The 3D exam is performed at the same time as your regular mammogram giving the radiologist all the information they have had in the past as well as the 3D images.

What is it like for the patient?

The experience for patients is generally the same whether they add 3D imaging on to their mammogram or not, it does not add any time onto the exam or require any additional compressions of the breasts.

Will my insurance cover the cost?

Medicare will cover the cost of 3D mammography; however, some other insurance companies do not cover the cost. This means that you may be responsible for some or all of the cost of the 3D portion of the mammogram depending on your coverage, deductible, and/or coinsurance. The estimated full cost of the 3D portion of the mammogram varies depending on your insurance plan. Please contact your insurance provider directly if you wish to inquire about coverage. We will always bill your insurance first but **if your insurance company does not cover this the current charge is \$75.00 for which you will be mailed a bill.**