

Mammogram

April 29, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



Mammogram Latest News

Doctors say a mammogram can pinpoint breast arterial calcifications (BAC) — calcium deposits in breast arteries that are now recognised as markers of underlying vascular damage that can raise cardiovascular risks.

About Mammogram

- Mammography is a test that **uses low-dose X-rays to create images of the breast**. These images are called **mammograms**.
- Healthcare providers use mammograms, or mammography, **to look for early signs of breast cancer before symptoms develop**. This is called a **screening mammogram**.
- Providers also use mammography to **look for any abnormalities if you develop a new symptom, such as a lump, pain, nipple discharge or breast skin changes**. This is called a **diagnostic mammogram**.
 - Although it's called a "diagnostic mammogram," it **can't diagnose breast cancer**.
 - However, it can **show whether the abnormal findings look like breast cancer**.
 - But these abnormal signs **can also be caused by a breast condition that is benign** (not cancer).

- **A Mammogram may show:**
 - **No signs of breast cancer**
 - **A benign (not cancer) breast condition** or other change that does not suggest cancer
 - **An abnormal finding** that needs follow-up tests to rule out cancer
- **What Happens if a Mammogram is Not Normal?**
 - An abnormal mammogram does **not always mean** that there is **cancer**.
 - You will **need** to have **additional mammograms, tests, or exams** before your provider can tell for sure.
 - You may also be **referred to a breast specialist** or a surgeon.
 - A **breast biopsy can determine** if tissue is **cancerous** or noncancerous.

Why Early Diagnosis of Breast Cancer Important?

- Aside from skin cancer, **breast cancer** is the most **common cancer** that affects females.
- An **early diagnosis** plays a **big role** in your breast **cancer survival rate**.
- **Routine mammograms** are key to catching breast cancer early.
- **When breast cancer is detected early**, the **five-year survival rate is 99%**.
- **Mammograms** are the gold standard in **detecting breast tissue changes** before they turn into cancer.

Source: **TOI**

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/mammogram/>

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