

October 18, 2022

Cancer Screening Tip of the Month – Breast Density

The Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program, Cancer Screening team, is pleased to offer the October Cancer Screening Tip of the Month eBulletin.

Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) **NEW:** Breast Density Reporting and Notification

The OBSP mammogram report now includes two breast density measures:

1. Percent mammographic density (<75% or ≥75%)
Based on evidence, the OBSP recommends participants with 75% or higher mammographic breast density be recalled automatically for their next screening mammogram in **one year instead of two years**.
2. American College of Radiology (ACR) Breast Imaging Reporting and Data System (BI-RADS) breast density category:
 - **Category A:** Almost entirely fatty
 - **Category B:** Scattered areas of fibroglandular density
 - **Category C:** Heterogeneously dense (which may obscure small masses)
 - **Category D:** Extremely dense (which lowers the sensitivity of mammography)

Currently, BI-RADS breast density categories (including categories C and D) are **NOT** used by the OBSP to determine when a participant should be recalled for their next mammogram.

- Based on lack of research evidence, the OBSP does not recommend additional screening tests (i.e. ultrasound, MRI) for people with dense breasts.
- Primary care providers will get a copy of their patient's OBSP screening mammogram report from the OBSP site where the mammogram was performed. This report will include percent mammographic density (<75% or ≥75%), BI-RADS category and when the patient will be recalled for their next mammogram (one year or two years).
- Ontario Health (Cancer Care Ontario) sends the normal OBSP result letter to participants. Through the normal result letters, OBSP participants with high breast density (75% or higher mammographic density) are notified that they will be recalled for screening in one year instead of two years due to dense breast tissue on their mammogram.

For more information regarding breast density and the OBSP click [here](#).

Stay tuned for these monthly cancer screening updates that are relevant to your practice.

Resources

For cancer screening tools and resources to support healthcare providers click [here](#).

Check out the [Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program](#) website for information and resources that span the cancer continuum.

Questions?

If you have any questions or if you would no longer like to receive the Cancer Screening Tip of the Month please email the Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program, Cancer Screening team: info@TCcancerscreening.ca