

Cancer Screening Tip of the Month – November 2023

Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program, Cancer Screening eBulletin

Expansion of the Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) to Include People Ages 40 to 49 in Fall 2024

What will Change in Fall 2024?

- The OBSP will recommend that eligible women, Two-Spirit, trans and non-binary people ages 40 to 49 have a conversation with a healthcare provider regarding the risks and benefits of screening, as well as their values and preferences, to determine if screening is right for them.
- Those who decide to get screened will:
 - Be able to self-refer for a screening mammogram by contacting an OBSP site.
 - Receive the benefits of organized screening, including result and recall correspondence and follow-up.

What is the current screening mammography process for people ages 40-49?

- Currently, people ages 40-49 at average risk of developing breast cancer are **not** eligible for screening through the OBSP.
- People ages 40-49 are encouraged to make a personal decision about screening in consultation with their family doctor or nurse practitioner and can be referred for a screening mammogram outside of the OBSP.

Who is currently eligible for breast screening through the OBSP?

Average Risk:

- Currently, the [OBSP](#) recommends that most eligible women, Two Spirit, trans and non-binary people at average risk of breast cancer have a mammogram every two years between the ages of 50 to 74.
 - Eligible people can self-refer for a screening mammogram by contacting an [OBSP site](#).
 - OBSP participants receive the benefits of organized screening, including result and recall correspondence and follow-up.

High Risk:

- The OBSP recommends that people ages 30 to 69 who meet the [High Risk OBSP eligibility criteria](#) get screened every year with both mammography and breast MRI (or screening breast ultrasound if MRI is not medically appropriate).
 - A referral from a physician or nurse practitioner is required.
 - Click [here](#) to access the High Risk OBSP requisition form.

Please see the attached **Frequently Asked Questions** for more details regarding the fall 2024 expansion of the OBSP to people ages 40-49. To learn more about the OBSP and the current eligibility criteria click [here](#).

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