

12.3 BREAST IMAGING GUIDELINES

TITLE	DESCRIPTION																
DEFINITION:	<p>Early detection remains the primary defense available to clients in preventing the development of life-threatening breast cancer. Breast tumors that are smaller or nonpalpable are more treatable when detected and thus are associated with a more favorable prognosis.</p> <p>The survival benefit of early detection with mammography screening has been demonstrated. The recommendation for mammography screening is based on three factors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The incidence of breast cancer. 2. The sojourn time for growth. 3. Potential to reduce the number of deaths from breast cancer. <p>The sojourn period is the time between when a mammogram can detect a breast cancer and the time it takes to grow big enough to become symptomatic. The sojourn period can vary and the greatest predictor is age. Women ages 40-49 have the shortest average sojourn period (2-2.4 years) and women 70-74 have the longest sojourn period (4-4.1 years).</p>																
SUBJECTIVE:	<p>Should Include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Age below 40: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Review history for increased risk factors for breast cancer. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Genetic tendency (i.e., BRAC1, BRAC2). ii. History of breast cancer. iii. Family history of breast or ovarian cancer (mother, sister, grandmother, aunt). 2. Age 40 and older: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Review history for increased risk factors. 																
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LABORATORY:	N/A.																
ASSESSMENT:	Candidate for mammography.																

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EDUCATION:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss and encourage breast self-awareness (BSA) beginning at age 20: BSA means that women understand the normal appearance and feel of their breasts – but without a specific interval or systematic examination technique. 2. Discuss recommendations for CBE. 3. Stress importance of follow-up plan. 																													
REFERRAL TO MEDICAL PROVIDER:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Refer if persistent abnormal CBE. 2. Refer for evaluation of abnormal imaging results. 3. Consult for possible mammogram for a woman < 40 years of age with risk factors for breast cancer and a normal CBE. 																													

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