



PATIENT INFORMATION MAMMOGRAM

YOUR APPOINTMENT IS:

TIME:

DAY:

DATE:

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO
BRING YOUR REFERRAL AND
ANY PREVIOUS FILMS.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a mammogram?

A mammogram is a breast x-ray which shows the tissues of the breast and the axillary (armpit) area.

When is it used?

Diagnostic mammography is performed in order to evaluate a breast complaint or abnormality detected by physical exam or routine screening mammography. Diagnostic mammography is different from screening mammography in that additional views of the breast are usually taken, as opposed to two views typically taken with screening mammography.

Do I need to do anything?

For your convenience, we advise you wear a two piece outfit as you will need to undress to the waist. Please do not wear any talcum powder or deodorant to your appointment, as this may show on the film.

What happens?

The x-ray machine has been especially designed to compress the breasts between two plates that show the breast tissue as clearly as possible. One of our experienced staff will take your x-ray and answer any questions you may have about the test. Two films are routinely taken of each breast and sometimes extra films are required to clarify certain areas. This is not uncommon and should not alarm you.

Ultrasound is often requested at the same time as a mammogram and this is helpful to show cysts and gives a more thorough examination where breast tissue is dense.

On occasions, further examinations will be necessary and this would be a decision made by your doctor or specialist after he has seen the report

e.g. fine needle aspiration or core biopsy, where small samples of tissue are taken and examined by the pathologist.

How long will it take?

The examination takes approximately 30 minutes. The mammogram films and report will usually be delivered to your doctor.

Please note that in order for the patient to receive a medicare rebate on mammograms, a clinical history with reason for the examination must be included on the referral form. Mammograms for the purpose of screening and HRT are NOT eligible for medicare rebate and will incur a non-rebatable fee.

Mammograms are available at Illawarra Radiology Group at the following branches:

**Wollongong
383 Crown St
Wollongong 2500
Phone: 422878883**

**Shellharbour
Suite 1, Professional Centre
Stockland Shellharbour 2529
Phone: 42967222**

Telephone or visit the most convenient branch to make an appointment.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR
REFERRAL AND PREVIOUS FILMS WITH
YOU.**