What To Expect After Your Screening Mammogram

A board-certified radiologist* on the medical staff at Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas who specializes in breast imaging will interpret your screening mammogram. You and your physician will receive a written report of the findings and recommendations within 14 business days. It is important for you to watch for your report in the mail. If you have not received your written report within 14 business days please call (214) 820-1082. The possible findings and recommendations are as follows:

1) Negative
The examination shows no evidence of cancer. A routine screening mammogram is recommended corresponding to the American Cancer Society and the Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas Darlene G. Cass Women’s Imaging Center guidelines. This recommendation is based on age and risk factors.

2) Possible Abnormality, Further Imaging Evaluation Is Needed
The examination shows one or more possible abnormalities that need further evaluation. The further evaluation could be additional mammographic and/or sonographic (ultrasound) examination. This does not necessarily mean that cancer is present, it means that clarification of a possible abnormality is needed. In fact, most patients who are asked to return for additional evaluation turn out to have nothing suspicious but the extra views are necessary to prove this. If further diagnostic evaluation is necessary, you will receive a call from trained staff to inform you within 5 – 7 business days following your screening mammogram.

NOTE - In accordance with the Texas Department of State Health Services a written order for further evaluation is required for all diagnostic procedures. This includes diagnostic mammography, ultrasound, breast biopsy, MRI and bone density. The written order must be obtained prior to your appointment. Please have your physician fax the written order to (214) 820-9201 a minimum of 48 hours prior to your appointment. If the written order has not been received prior to your scheduled appointment time, we must reschedule your appointment, pending receipt of the written order.

3) Possible Abnormality, Comparison with Previous Examination From Another Facility
In most circumstances, the possible abnormality can be clarified by comparison with the previous exam. If you did not bring your previous mammogram films to your screening appointment today, we ask that you obtain them with a copy of your report and deliver it back to us for comparison within 12 days of your appointment date. If this comparison does not confirm that the possible abnormality is completely benign, then you and your physician will receive a written recommendation for additional examination (mammographic/sonographic) to further evaluate the possible abnormality. If you cannot obtain your previous mammogram films within 12 days, your current mammogram will be read by the radiologist on our medical staff and you will receive a phone call and result letter. Your physician will receive a written recommendation for additional examination (mammographic / sonographic) to further evaluate the possible abnormality.

4) If You Choose Diagnostic Follow Up at Another Facility
If you choose to schedule your diagnostic follow-up at another facility, please fax a signed request, as required by law, which includes your full name, your date of birth, a day-time telephone number and the exact address specifying where you would like your images and report sent. Please allow 7 – 10 business days from the day you fax the request for your films to arrive via US Mail. Or, if you wish to pick up your films, please specify “HOLD FOR PICK-UP” and allow 48 hours after you fax your request. Please fax your request to (214) 820-9210. If you have questions or need assistance, please call (214) 820-9205.

We hope this explanation of the process that occurs after a screening mammogram will help you understand the findings and recommendations you receive. Your health is very important to us and we appreciate the opportunity to serve you. Thank you for participating in the Baylor Dallas Darlene G. Cass Women’s Imaging Center Screening Program.

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BSWHealth.com/DallasBreastImaging

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