



SASKATCHEWAN CANCER AGENCY

OCTOBER 1, 2012

EARLY DETECTION YOUR BEST DEFENCE AGAINST BREAST CANCER

It only takes minutes, but a screening mammogram could help save a woman's life. Breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in Saskatchewan women and during Breast Cancer Awareness month this October women are encouraged to get screened.

The Saskatchewan Cancer Agency operates the Screening Program for Breast Cancer (SPBC) a province-wide program for the early detection of breast cancer using digital screening mammography. The SPBC provides approximately 38,000 screening mammograms to Saskatchewan women 50 years of age and older each year.

"Early detection is your best defence when it comes to cancer," said Scott Livingstone, Saskatchewan Cancer Agency CEO. "Having routine screening mammograms will help detect cancer in its early stages when treatment is the most effective."

Since 1990 more than 2,600 cancers have been detected through the screening program which operates permanent clinics in Regina and Saskatoon and offers satellite clinics in Moose Jaw, Yorkton, Swift Current, Prince Albert and North Battleford. The program also includes a mobile unit that travels the province providing screening mammograms to women in rural and geographically isolated areas of Saskatchewan. In early November, the program will expand its services with the addition of a satellite clinic in Lloydminster.

The Cancer Agency also conducts ground breaking breast cancer research. Understanding how breast cancer develops and why it spreads is a key focus of the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency's research team at the Saskatoon Cancer Centre.

"Improving our understanding of the disease leads to more effective treatment and screening" Livingstone said. "We have some of the very best researchers right here working hard to make a difference in the fight against cancer."

For more information visit www.saskcancer.ca or to book a screening mammogram call 1-800-667-0017.

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