

Breast Screening Mammograms During COVID-19

What is happening with the Screening Program for Breast Cancer?

The program resumed mid-June 2020. Please call 1-855-584-8228 to book your screening mammogram. Our phone lines are busy – if prompted, please leave a message and your call will be returned within 4 business days. There are evening appointments at some of our locations.

Are you screening everyone for symptoms of COVID-19?

We will do a verbal COVID-19 screening for symptoms when you call to make your appointment and again when you come for your appointment. People who do not pass the screening will not be eligible for a screening mammogram, and will be asked to reschedule.

SCA employees are screened daily, which includes temperature checks, and must wear masks at all times in our facilities.

What will happen at my appointment?

We have reserved parking for you at our Regina and Saskatoon facilities. We ask that you phone us from your vehicle when you arrive to go through the COVID-19 screening questions again.

In an effort to prevent congestion at our entrances, we will advise you when it is safe for you to enter our facilities. A waiting room will be made available for those who do not have a vehicle.

Once you are inside, we will ask you to sanitize your hands, put on a mask that we will provide to you, and have your temperature taken. Masks continue to be mandatory in all SCA facilities at this time.

Our technologists will be wearing personal protective equipment while completing mammograms.

What is happening with the mobile screening bus?

The mobile mammography bus is now operational, assisting with the waitlist.

Will I be able to go to my preferred or usual screening mammogram site?

For various reasons, we may not be able to book your mammogram at your usual location. We will discuss the options when you call to book your appointment.



Breast Screening & COVID-19

What happens if my results indicate that I need further testing for followup?

Our client navigators or your healthcare provider will call you to arrange the followup tests that you need.

What is the risk of delaying a screening mammogram? Aren't women supposed to have a mammogram every two years?

The Screening Program for Breast Cancer aims to find breast changes early, before you could feel or see a change. For most people, a delay in regular screening mammograms is not likely to impact long term health outcomes. If you notice changes in your breasts, please reach out to your healthcare provider.

Is there a wait for a screening mammogram at some sites?

Some screening sites are open longer hours to try and accommodate as many women as possible. We appreciate your patience.

Breast screening is a non-urgent test for those women with no breast symptoms. If you notice changes in your breasts, please reach out to your healthcare provider.

What do I do if I have noticed changes in my breasts?

Please contact your healthcare provider so they can assess you. They may refer you to a diagnostic centre for a diagnostic mammogram. Diagnostic mammograms focus on the area or areas of concern.

Does the COVID-19 vaccine affect my screening mammogram?

There is now some evidence that the COVID-19 vaccines can cause enlarged lymph nodes that may be seen in a mammogram. When you book and come for your appointment, you will be asked if you have had the vaccine and in which arm you received it. This will be noted for the radiologist when they are reading your images.

Breast screening remains available during the pandemic with increased safety measures, and we encourage all patients to consider their breast health during this challenging time.

We will make every effort to schedule your screening before the vaccination or six weeks after it. At this time, however, it is not recommended to cancel or delay any screening appointment which you have already scheduled, as a result of a recent COVID-19 vaccination.