

# 3D Mammography

## A new dimension in breast cancer detection.

### What is a 3D mammography breast exam?

3D mammography is a revolutionary new screening and diagnostic tool for early breast cancer detection. Also known as tomosynthesis, 3D mammography is performed in conjunction with traditional 2D digital mammography. During the 3D portion of the exam, the X-ray arm sweeps in a slight arc over the breast, taking multiple images. Then a computer produces 3D images in one-millimeter slices—enabling the radiologist to see breast detail never before possible. 3D images also make it possible for the radiologist to gain a better understanding of your breast tissue during screening<sup>1</sup> and the confidence to reduce the need for follow-up imaging.<sup>2</sup>

### Why is there a need for 3D mammography and what are its benefits?

With conventional digital mammography, the radiologist views all the complexities of your breast tissue in a one flat image. Sometimes, however, breast tissue can overlap—giving normal breast tissue the illusion of an abnormal area. With 3D mammography, the radiologist views the breast tissue in one-millimeter slices, enabling a more confident assessment.<sup>1</sup> 3D mammography finds cancers missed with conventional 2D mammography.<sup>3</sup> And because the radiologist can see breast tissue more clearly, 3D mammography reduces the need for patients to return for additional images.

### What is the difference between a screening and diagnostic mammogram?

Your annual mammogram is called a screening mammogram. When there is a breast concern that needs to be evaluated, or a radiologist asks you to come back for follow-up images to study a questionable area of the breast, the exam is called a diagnostic mammogram.

### What should I expect during the 3D mammography exam?

3D mammography complements standard 2D mammography and is performed at the same time with the same system. It only takes a few additional seconds for each view, and no additional compression is required.

### Is there more radiation dose?

Very low X-ray energy is used during the exam—about the same amount as for a traditional film mammogram.

### Who can have a 3D mammography exam?

3D mammography is approved for all women undergoing standard mammography, in screening and diagnostic settings.<sup>1</sup>



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