



Tomosynthesis (3-D Mammography)

Compared to standard mammography, Tomosynthesis has been shown to:

- Increase the detection rate of breast cancer
 - 2.6 more breast cancers were detected per 1,000 women
- Increase the detection rate of invasive breast cancer
 - 1.2 more invasive breast cancers were detected per 1,000 women
- Decrease the need for a recall (follow-up mammogram) for additional images
 - Between 6 and 16 fewer recalls for additional images per 1,000 women

Although Tomosynthesis is more expensive, it is covered by **most** — but not all — insurance companies. Patients are encouraged to check with their insurance carriers prior to the exam.

- The additional cost of the technical component varies depending on the exam performed. Cost ranges from under one hundred dollars to several hundred dollars. Please note there is an additional interpretation fee that generally costs between one hundred and two hundred dollars.
- For patients whose insurance covers the procedure, this will be billed to insurance.

The Tomosynthesis positioning and procedure is the same as a conventional mammogram. The machine has the ability to do either conventional mammograms or 3-D images based on your preference. During a 3-D mammogram, the x-ray machine moves during the exam. Both 2D and 3D mammography are performed in a single exam.

Should I choose a 3-D mammogram?

Tomosynthesis is reasonable to consider for women at higher risk of breast cancer — due to a positive family history, dense breasts, etc. — or prefer a breast cancer screening test that:

- Has a slightly higher sensitivity rate than standard mammography
- May, but not always, reduce the need for a recall or follow-up mammogram