

Diagnosis and Treatment of Breast Cancer

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Editorial Note

Breast cancer is diagnosed using the following tests and procedures:

Breast exam: Doctor will check both of your breasts and lymph nodes in your armpit, feeling for any lumps or other abnormalities.

Mammogram: A mammogram is a type of X-ray that is used to examine the breast. Breast cancer screening is usually done through mammograms. If a screening mammography reveals an anomaly, your doctor may prescribe a diagnostic mammogram to investigate further.

Breast ultrasound: Ultrasound uses sound waves to produce images of structures deep within the body. Ultrasound may be used to determine whether a new breast lump is a solid mass or a fluid-filled cyst.

Removing a sample of breast cells for testing (biopsy): Breast cancer can only be diagnosed definitively by a biopsy. A biopsy is a procedure in which your doctor extracts a core of tissue from a questionable region using a specialised needle instrument guided by an X-ray or another imaging test. A tiny metal marker is frequently left at the location within your breast so that subsequent imaging tests

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