

Breast screening, using a special x-ray known as a mammogram, can detect breast cancer at an early stage. This can reduce the risk of dying from breast cancer.

Breast implants

A standard mammogram may be less effective if you have a breast implant. This is because implants are dense and can hide part of the breast tissue, as well as change the breast structure.

Screening process

Rather than attend the mobile unit for screening, it is recommended that women with implants attend their local screening centre where the x-rays can be processed and checked as soon as they are taken.

It is important to tell the radiographer if you have an implant, and the type of implant used, before you are screened. This is because the screening technique can be adapted to show the greatest amount of breast tissue possible.

The screening procedure involves moderate pressure on the breast; however, it is very unlikely to harm your implants.

Concerned about your implants?

Screening for cancer is not a check on your implants. If you have any fears about the state of your implants, you should tell the radiographer.

If you have any other questions about your implants, please contact your GP.

Screening centres

Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

(also covering South Eastern HSC Trust)
The Screening Centre
12-22 Linenhall Street, Belfast BT2 8BS
Tel: 028 9033 3700

Northern Health and Social Care Trust

Northern Area Breast Screening and
Assessment Unit
Level A, Antrim Area Hospital
45 Bush Road, Antrim BT41 2RL
Tel: 028 9442 4425

Southern Health and Social Care Trust

The Breast Screening Unit
Lurgan Hospital
Sloan Street, Lurgan BT66 8NX
Tel: 028 3834 7083

Western Health and Social Care Trust

The Breast Screening Unit
Ground Floor, The Nurses' Home
Altnagelvin Area Hospital
Glenshane Road, Londonderry BT47 6SB
Tel: 028 7161 1443

For further information on breast
screening in Northern Ireland or for
this leaflet in other languages or
alternative formats, visit

www.cancerscreening.n-i.nhs.uk

or contact your local
screening centre.



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The logo for Breast Screening, with 'Breast' in a purple script font and 'Screening' in a black script font, separated by a purple and white swoosh.

Breast Screening

What if I have breast implants?