



## **What happens after your breast screen?**

Congratulations on having had a breast screen (screening mammogram). We trust you feel that your visit has been worthwhile. We would welcome any comments you may have. This brochure tells you what happens now that you have had your breast screen, when you will get your results, and what those results will mean.

### **When will I get my results?**

Your results should be sent to you in about 2 weeks. Please advise us if you do not receive them. Your results will also be sent to your doctor unless you have requested otherwise.

### **What happens when my next breast screen is due?**

You will automatically receive a reminder letter when your next breast screen is due. If you do not want to receive reminder letters, please tell us. Normally, you will be invited for another breast screen in 2 years time. If for some reason you don't receive a letter, please give us a call on 13 20 50 and we will make an appointment.

### **What happens if I'm asked to come back for a repeat breast screen?**

Very occasionally a technical problem occurs when the breast screen is taken, so that the picture produced is not clear enough. If this does happen we will ask you to come back for a repeat of your breast screen.

### **What happens if I'm asked to come for further tests?**

About 1 in 20 women may be asked to come back for further tests. This is because there is an area on their breast screen that needs further investigation. It's important to remember that about 9 out of 10 women who are recalled do not have breast cancer.

If you are recalled you will be asked to go to an assessment centre, which may or may not be at the same place that you had your breast screen. At BreastScreen NSW, any tests required are free of charge. If you need further tests, we will give you more information when we contact you.

## **Please tell your family and friends**

It's our goal at BreastScreen NSW to reduce deaths from breast cancer by encouraging all women over 50 to have a breast screen every 2 years. You can help us by telling your family and friends about our service and by encouraging them to come along. They can call us on 13 20 50 for more information or to arrange an appointment.

If you are interested, someone from our service can come and speak to your group, club or workplace, about BreastScreen NSW and the services we provide.

## **What else can I do?**

From the age of 50, you should have a breast screen every 2 years. This is important because changes in the breasts, such as cancer, develop over time. Also your risk of developing breast cancer increases with increasing age. We suggest the three following ways of providing yourself with the best protection from breast cancer.

- Have a screening mammogram at BreastScreen NSW every two years if you are aged 50 to 69 years.
- Have a clinical breast examination by your doctor or women's health nurse once a year.
- See your doctor immediately if you notice any unusual changes in your breasts, such as lumps, pain or nipple discharge, even if your breast screen has been normal.

Remember to visit BreastScreen NSW every 2 years if you are over 50 years of age.

**Early detection is your best protection!**