

**PATIENT ADVISORY/CONSENT FOR MAMMOGRAPHY
FOR PATIENTS WITH BREAST IMPLANTS**

Patients with breast implants having a mammogram should be aware that:

1. Your physician has recommended that you have a mammogram. This procedure is currently the best way to detect a cancer of the breast that cannot be detected by breast palpation (manual examination).
2. Breast implants can interfere with the interpretation of your mammogram because they obscure some of the breast tissue. However, techniques that involve displacement of the implants allow for a better examination. To provide adequate displacement of the implant, it is necessary to apply pressure, with the mammography machine, to the breast and the implant. This pressure may be uncomfortable, but it is essential to the examination.
3. While thousands of implant patients have undergone successful mammography without problems, there have been reports of occasional rupture of the implants as a result of the mammography procedure. A rupture may or may not be detected immediately and may require surgery. Although our technologists are aware of this possibility and take care in their techniques, you should be aware that even with appropriate technique there is a risk that an implant may rupture during your mammogram.
4. Implants that have been in place for a number of years may be more likely to rupture. However, most physicians agree that the risk of an implant rupture is outweighed by the benefits of the mammography, and mammography is recommended to protect a woman's health.

I have read this advisory. I am aware of the possible risk of damage to my breast implants and possible rupture as a result of mammography, and I consent to the procedure.

I certify that I (or a member of my staff) have discussed the above consent form with the patient and have offered to answer any questions regarding mammography. I believe that the patient understands the explanation and answers provided as well as the risks and benefits of this procedure.