

**PATIENT ADVISORY FOR
SCREENING BREAST ULTRASOUND**

This is a Sample of a form you may be asked to sign

Patients requesting screening breast ultrasound should be aware that:

1. Breast ultrasound is a helpful tool used in conjunction with diagnostic mammography, to help answer questions about the characteristics of a mass or lump.
1. It is not as sensitive as mammography and should not be used as a screening tool, as it does not image the fine calcifications that accompany 35-45% of breast cancers. Also, breast ultrasound does not reproducibly document that all of the breast tissue has been imaged.
1. The American Cancer Society's updated guidelines recognize that mammography is still the best screening test and state that breast ultrasound when used alone is not appropriate for breast cancer screening.
1. The American College of Radiology and American Society of Breast Surgeons do not recommend breast ultrasound be used as a screening tool.
1. Some insurance companies do not pay for the exam, as it is considered experimental and is not the standard of care.

I have read this advisory and had my questions answered. I am aware of the possibility that a screening breast ultrasound exam will not give a complete diagnosis and that a negative screening breast ultrasound does not necessarily mean that I do not have breast cancer.

I understand that some insurance companies do not pay for breast ultrasound as a screening tool and I will be liable for payment if my insurance company denies this claim.