




WEST SUSSEX
 BREAST
 SCREENING
 SERVICE



Mammography Saves Lives™

... one of them may be yours

West Sussex Breast Screening Service

The NHS offers breast screening to save lives from breast cancer.

Screening does this by finding breast cancers at an early stage when they are too small to see or feel. Breast screening uses an x-ray test called a mammogram to check the breast for signs of cancer.

The scan is quick and simple and early detection of cancer may often mean simpler and more successful treatment.

Women aged 50 up to their 71st birthday are invited to have breast screening every three years. If you are over 71 you will not be invited, however should you have any symptoms please contact your GP.

Patient feedback from January 2020 – July 2020

"well organised"
 "wonderful service"
 "amazing service"
 expert thorough
 efficient
 professional exemplary
 "excellent service"
 "great service"
 "staff were fantastic"
 professionalism



Frequently asked questions

How will women be invited?

The Screening Office will send you an invitation letter. The letter will include information about breast screening and a map to show the location of the mobile screening unit.

Can they change their appointment?

Yes - they can phone the office on 01903-239757.

A woman is new to the area. What does she do if she wants a mammogram?

The Screening Office routinely contacts women who have moved into the area every three months unless their GP practice is about to be screened. She can call the office to check.

How often can she be screened by the Screening Service?

Every three years.

How long does screening take?

A woman should be on the mobile unit for half an hour or less.

Does a woman need to do anything?

She should wear suitable clothing as she will need to undress her top half. She should not wear spray deodorant as this can make tiny marks on the x-rays.

How soon do results arrive?

Results should be received within three weeks.

Should a woman still examine her breasts herself?

Yes - she should be aware of any changes in her breasts. Breast cancer can develop at any time, including the intervals between screening.

If she finds a change, who should she tell?

She should contact her GP who will refer her to see a Breast Surgeon at Worthing Hospital. The Screening Service cannot screen women on demand.

If you call her back for assessment after screening, what does that mean?

It usually means that we have seen a change in her x-rays compared with those taken last time. The majority of women recalled do not have cancer. However, the films may not give a complete answer and further investigation is sometimes needed.

What will happen at assessment?

Some extra mammograms may be taken. She will then see a senior specialist doctor who will undertake a clinical examination and possibly an ultrasound.

What happens then?

The majority of women are found to be normal at this stage. Some women may need a biopsy to help with a diagnosis. This is sometimes done at the assessment appointment but most women will need to come back on another day.

West Sussex Breast Screening Service
Worthing Hospital
Lyndhurst Road
BN11 2DH
Phone: 01903 239757
Email:

wshnt.westsussexbreastscreening@nhs.net

Facebook:

@WestSussexBreastScreeningService