

## ***What is Mammography?***

Mammography is an x-ray procedure which uses a very low dose of radiation to look at the internal structures of your breasts. A mammogram can reveal cancerous growths that are too small to be felt by your physician. Sheridan Radiology uses state-of-the-art equipment to produce excellent image clarity, with the shortest radiation exposure possible.

Sheridan Radiology Women's Center is accredited by the Food and Drug Administration, the American College of Radiology and the State of Wyoming.

A female registered radiology technologist, with advanced training in mammography, will perform your mammogram. She will be supervised by a Board Certified Radiologist who has received advanced medical training in diagnosing breast disease. Our radiologists have earned a national reputation as leaders in the field of breast disease diagnosis.

### **Screening Mammography vs. Diagnosis Mammography**

A screening mammogram is recommended on a yearly basis after the age of 40. These procedures require no physician order, however, we do ask for a physician's name to which we may send the results of your procedure.

Diagnostic mammograms are performed as a result of any abnormality which was noted on your screening mammogram. These procedures do require a physician order.

### **How do I prepare for this test?**

We ask that you do not wear powder, perfume or deodorant for the procedure, however, if this is inconvenient we provide sterile wipes. Prior to your exam, you will be asked to remove your clothes from the waist up and change into a warm, comfortable mammography gown. We will also provide you with a warm robe. The registered technologist will answer any questions you have prior to your procedures.

### **How long will this test take?**

Mammograms take approximately 20 minutes.

### **What can I expect during the test?**

The technologist will position you for the exam. In order to obtain uniform exposure, the breast will be gently and gradually compressed. It only takes a few moments to position and take the x-ray. Good compression is important because it minimizes radiation exposure and allows visualization of the abnormalities which may be hidden.

Usually, two images are taken of each breast, one from the top and one from the side. For some women additional views are necessary for better visualization of breast tissue.

### **What can I expect after the test?**

Our Board Certified Radiologist will report the specific results to your physician within 24 hours. You will personally receive the results within 3-5 days via the mail.