

CHATTANOOGA ■ I M A G I N G

(423) 553-1234

Your appointment is scheduled for: Date _____ Time _____

Type of exam _____ Ordering physician _____

Diagnosis _____

Copy of report sent to _____

Thank you for choosing Chattanooga Imaging. The following information will assist you in understanding your diagnostic procedure.

MAMMOGRAPHY

What Is Mammography?

Mammography uses x-rays to find abnormalities in the breasts. Mammography is one of the best screening methods for early detection of breast cancer, enabling prompt treatment and increasing the chances of cure. The American Cancer Society recommends that all women, starting at age 35, have a baseline mammogram, and that women 40 and over have a mammogram once a year.

What To Expect

A mammogram takes about 15 minutes for the actual procedure. During the exam the technologist will position your breast on the machine, compress the breast tissue, and then take the exposure. The compression can be uncomfortable, but will last for only a few seconds. Compression does not cause damage to the breast tissue.

Communication with the technologist is important. At any time during the procedure, please let us know if you need the technologist to reposition your breast.

After the exam, you will be asked to wait while the technologist checks the quality of the films. Occasionally, there is a need to perform additional views of the breast. Reasons for this might be patient movement or to adjust the lightness or darkness of an area of breast tissue. The final films will then be given to a radiologist for interpretation. The radiologist will compare these images to any previous mammograms, if available. If the radiologist needs any other study to correlate with your mammogram, our facility will contact you. Otherwise, a report will be sent to your physician in a timely manner. You will also receive a card in the mail with the results of your test. Your physician will contact you, if necessary.

Patient Preparation

Please do not wear deodorant, powder, or any lotion on your breast or underarm area, as these can appear as calcium spots on the x-ray film. Please wear a two-piece outfit so you can easily remove your clothing from the waist up. If you have had previous mammograms, please notify us 24 hours before your exam, or bring the previous films with you.

If you have any questions about your mammogram, please call our office.

Thank you for choosing

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