Breast Implants and Breast Cancer Screening

What You Need To Know

Studies show that mammograms are an effective way to screen for breast cancer in women with breast implants.

Implants can, however, obscure tissue, decreasing the ability of mammograms to reveal cancer and potentially delaying diagnosis. A technologist will therefore use special positioning techniques and take extra views, so a mammogram with implants may take more time.

What Experts Recommend

The benefits of mammography still clearly outweigh the potential complications associated with implants. Research shows screening mammograms are most effective and save the most lives when performed every year starting at age 40. However, a woman may need to start getting mammograms earlier than age 40, based on her family history and other risk factors.

What You Can Do

If you have implants, there are extra precautions you can take to promote breast health.

1. Consider Breast MRI

   Mammograms are the gold standard in breast cancer screening. However, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommends that women with silicone gel-filled breast implants undergo MRI screening three years after receiving a new implant and then every two years for early detection of a possible “silent rupture,” or one without symptoms. Routine breast MRI is not necessary for patients with saline implants unless additional risk factors are present.

   Breast MRI may also be recommended for women who have additional risk factors for breast cancer, such as a family history of the disease, or a mutation in genes such as BRCA1 or BRCA2. If you have questions about your risk factors, please speak with your doctor or a specialist, such as a genetic counselor.

2. Choose An Experienced Facility

   Invision Sally Jobe’s skillful technologists and nationally recognized breast radiologists are well-versed in performing and reading exams with breast implants.

3. Tell Us About Your Implants

   We will ask you about implants when you schedule your appointment as well as when you check in on the day of your exam. Be sure to let us know about your implants so we can take extra care and make the necessary adjustments during your exam.

Mammograms matter... every woman, every year!
Insurance Coverage and Financial Concerns
Exams are most often covered by insurance, as long as they are clinically indicated. Please contact your insurance carrier if you have questions. We recognize that financial concerns may prevent some patients from seeking necessary healthcare exams. We pride ourselves on being sympathetic and flexible. We offer a dedicated financial navigator, as well as assistance with pre-authorization and any necessary insurance appeals after the exam is completed. If you have financial concerns or need additional guidance on how to speak with your insurance company about your exam, please call our Patient Care Coordination line.

Locations
Invision Sally Jobe offers convenient locations throughout the Denver metro area. Visit www.invisionsallyjobe.com to find the location nearest you.

Why Invision Sally Jobe?
Every Invision Sally Jobe breast imaging site is a National Quality Measures for Breast Centers® (NQMBC) Certified Quality Breast Center of Excellence™. This designation is awarded to facilities that consistently demonstrate excellence in patient care and adherence to the highest clinical quality standards. Invision Sally Jobe is the only breast network in Denver metro area to earn this distinction.

To schedule an appointment, call 720.493.3700.
For other inquiries, call our Patient Care Coordination line at 720.493.3459 or email pcc@riaco.com.

www.InvisionSallyJobe.com