

UW Medicine



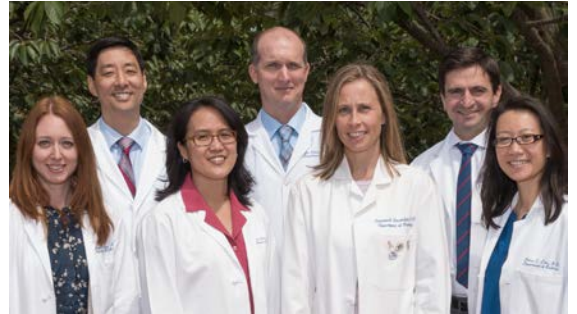
## After Your Screening Mammogram

*What to expect and next steps*

*This handout explains next steps after having a screening mammogram at UW Medicine and Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA).*

### Who reviews the images?

Radiologists at SCCA are expert doctors who will review your mammogram images. This review will be done within 1 business day of your exam.



*SCCA radiologists are experts in reading mammograms.*

### How do I get the results?

You will receive your results by mail within 10 business days. Make sure that we have your current address.

Your provider will also receive a report. The report will contain our findings and tell what we advise for next steps.

If you do not receive your results letter within 10 business days, please call SCCA at 206.606.7800.

### What will the results letter tell me?

Your letter will tell you whether:

- Your mammogram results are normal.
- We need to see the images from other mammograms you may have had in other places.
- We want you to return so that we can take more images.

### **Normal Results**

If your results are normal, the letter will say that we advise you to have regular screening. Most women have a mammogram every year, but some women choose to have the exam every 2 years. Talk about this with the healthcare provider who referred you for this mammogram. Also see the "Screening Mammography Timeline" section on page 2.

### ***Prior Mammogram Results Needed***

Your results letter may say that we need “prior mammogram results.” This means that our radiologist needs the results of other mammograms you have had before we can give you a final report. This lets the radiologist look for changes in your mammogram over time.

Our team will do our best to get these images quickly. If we cannot get these images within 30 days, we will call you and send you a letter asking you to return for more imaging.

### ***Return for Additional Images***

Your results letter may ask you to “return for additional images.” This means that our radiologist wants to take more images. These images will give the radiologist a better look at certain areas. Most times, these extra images confirm that a patient has a *benign* breast condition (not cancer).

### **If We Need More Images**

If we need more images, they will be done at SCCA’s South Lake Union clinic. To make your appointment, call SCCA at 206.606.7800.

The clinic is at 825 Eastlake Ave. E, at the corner of Aloha and Eastlake in Seattle, WA. To reach the clinic, take the Mercer St. exit from I-5. Visit [www.seattlecca.org](http://www.seattlecca.org) for directions.

### **Long-term Care**

If you or your doctor feel something in your breasts before your next mammogram, make an appointment for another mammogram right away. Do this even if your results letter says that your screening mammogram results are normal.

### **Screening Mammography Timeline**

The American Cancer Society, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, and the National Comprehensive Cancer Network all have guidelines about when women should have screening mammograms. Each group suggests a different timeline for testing. But, all agree that starting yearly screening mammograms at age 40 saves the most lives.

For most women, UW Medicine and SCCA advise getting yearly screening mammograms starting by age 40 to 45. Talk with your provider if you have questions about when and how often to have screening mammograms.

### **Thank You**

Thank you for choosing UW Medicine and SCCA for your screening mammogram. These exams help us find breast cancer early. Finding cancer and treating it in its early stages saves lives.

#### **Questions?**

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns.

To schedule a mammogram, call 206. 606.7800