



3D Mammography FAQ

Q: What is the difference between 3D mammography and traditional 2D mammography?

A: Conventional mammograms provide doctors with a two-dimensional image of the three-dimensional breast. Overlapping layers of tissue can sometimes create unclear results, false alarms or cancers being missed. A 3D mammogram takes a series of detailed images of the breast. This allows breast tissue to be evaluated layer by layer in more detail, helping to screen for cancer, determine if additional testing is necessary or dismiss a false-positive with confidence.

Q: What are the benefits of 3D mammography?

A: As opposed to traditional 2D mammography, 3D mammography has been proven to:

- Detect 41% more invasive breast cancers
- Detect cancer 15 months earlier
- Reduce false-positive recalls by up to 40

Q: What should I expect from my 3D mammogram exam?

A: The 3D mammogram has a comparable exam experience to a traditional 2D mammogram. The scan takes less than four seconds, and you will experience the same positions and breast compression as a traditional exam.

Q: Is there an increased radiation risk with 3D mammography?

A: No. 3D mammography emits low-dose radiation comparable to traditional 2D mammography. It is well below the average radiation exposure a person faces per year and below FDA guidelines.

Q: When will I know the results of my 3D mammogram?

A: Cooper Clinic provides same-day results with the opportunity to review your scans with a physician who is a breast imaging specialist.

Q: When should I have a mammogram?

A: Cooper Clinic and American Cancer Society recommend annual mammograms for women beginning at age 40. If you have a family history of breast cancer, consult with your physician to see if you should begin screening earlier.

Q: Does Cooper Clinic accept insurance for 3D mammography?

A: Cooper Clinic does not accept insurance but does provide the patient with the appropriate codes to file on their own. A growing number of private insurers as well as Medicare are now covering 3D mammography. Contact your insurance provider regarding your specific coverage.