








# Breast cancer

## When to recommend a **screening mammogram** **OR** refer **diagnostically**

	<b>BreastScreen services</b> Asymptomatic women	<b>Diagnostic services</b> Symptomatic women/men
	To reduce mortality rate from breast cancer in women aged 50-74	To investigate clinical breast symptoms
	Targeting women 50-74 (eligible from 40)	Any age
	No referral	Referral required
	Free	Partial rebate from Medicare/bulk bill (must satisfy criteria)
	Every two years	As required
	Mammogram*	In addition to mammography, other imaging techniques specific to each case are available
	Results to woman and her GP (with patient consent)	Results to referring doctor

**Screening definition:** The World Health Organization (WHO) defines screening as the presumptive identification of unrecognised disease or defects by means of tests, examinations or other procedures that can be applied rapidly. Screening is intended for all people, in an identified target population, who do not have symptoms of the disease or condition being screened for.

\* Approximately 6% of women are recalled to a BreastScreen Victoria assessment clinic for additional tests following initial mammogram. All tests performed are free of charge up to point of definitive diagnosis.

Women can book a breast screen at:  
**[breastscreen.org.au](http://breastscreen.org.au)** or call **13 20 50**