

# **Clinical Decision Support (CDS) Content and Health Level 7 (HL7)-Compliant Knowledge Artifacts (KNARTs)**

## **Women's Health: Breast Cancer Screening Clinical Content White Paper**

**Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)**



**Knowledge Based Systems (KBS)  
Office of Informatics and Information Governance (OIIG)  
Clinical Decision Support (CDS)**

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# Clinical Decision Support (CDS) Content and Health Level 7 (HL7)-Compliant Knowledge Artifacts (KNARTs): Women's Health: Breast Cancer Screening Clinical Content White Paper

by Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), , , and

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**Table 1. Summary of Women's Health: Breast Cancer Screening KNARTs**

Women's Health KNART	Associated CLIN
Breast Cancer Screening - Event Condition Action (ECA) Rule	CLIN0007BA
Breast Cancer Screening - Documentation Template	CLIN0005AC
Breast Cancer Screening - Order Set	CLIN0004AA

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# Introduction

The VA is committed to improving the ability of clinicians to provide care for patients while increasing quality, safety, and efficiency. Recognizing the importance of standardizing clinical knowledge in support of this goal, VA is implementing the Health Level 7 (HL7) Knowledge Artifact Specification for a wide range of VA clinical use cases. Knowledge Artifacts, referred to as (KNARTs), enable the structuring and encoding of clinical knowledge so the knowledge can be integrated with electronic health records to enable clinical decision support.

The purpose of this Clinical Content White Paper (CCWP) is to capture the clinical context and intent of KNART use cases in sufficient detail to provide the KNART authoring team with the clinical source material to construct the corresponding knowledge artifacts using the HL7 Knowledge Artifact Specification. This paper has been developed using material from a variety of sources: VA artifacts, clinical practice guidelines, evidence in the body of medical literature, and clinical expertise. After reviewing these sources, the material has been synthesized and harmonized under the guidance of VA subject matter experts to reflect clinical intent for this use case.

Unless otherwise noted, items within this white paper (e.g., documentation template fields, orderable items, etc.) are chosen to reflect the clinical intent at the time of creation. To provide an exhaustive list of all possible items and their variations is beyond the scope of this work.



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# Conventions Used

Conventions used within the knowledge artifact descriptions include:

<obtain>: Indicates a prompt to obtain the information listed

- If possible, the requested information should be obtained from the underlying system(s). Otherwise, prompting the user for information may be required
- Default Values: Unless otherwise noted, <obtain> indicates to obtain the most recent observation. It is recognized that this default time-frame value may be altered by future implementations

[...]: Square brackets enclose explanatory text that indicates some action on the part of the clinical user, or general guidance to the clinical or technical teams. Examples include, but are not limited to:

[Begin ...], [End ...]: Indicates the start and end of specific areas to clearly delineate them for technical purposes.

[Activate ...]: Initiates another knowledge artifact or knowledge artifact section.

[Section Prompt: ...]: If this section is applicable, then the following prompt should be displayed to the user.

[Section Selection Behavior: ...]: Indicates technical constraints or considerations for the selection of items within the section.

[Attach: ...]: Indicates that the specified item should be attached to the documentation template if available.

[Link: ...]: Indicates that rather than attaching an item, a link should be included in the documentation template.

[Clinical Comment: ...]: Indicates clinical rationale or guidance.

[Technical Note: ...]: Indicates technical considerations or notes.

[If ...]: Indicates the beginning of a conditional section.

[Else, ...]: Indicates the beginning of the alternative branch of a conditional section.

[End if ...]: Indicates the end of a conditional section.

#: Indicates items that should be selected based upon the section selection behavior.

---

# Chapter 1. Breast Cancer Screening

## 1. Clinical Context

Several authoritative groups, including the United States Preventive Task Force (*USPTF*) (#ref USPTF), the American Cancer Society (*ACS*) (#ref Oeffinger, 2015), and the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (#ref Pearlman, 2017), have issued guidance that is partially overlapping and conflicting regarding screening mammography. To maximize clarity and reflect the most current evidence standard, the 2015 recommendations of the American Cancer Society (#ref ACS) will be regarded as the highest-tier evidence source (#ref ACSBCSG).

The American Cancer Society Guideline Development Group (*ACSGDG*) reviewed the evidence in an attempt to balance the benefit of early detection and treatment with the risk of false-positive findings, over detection, and over treatment. The ACSGDG also reviewed the evidence, evaluating the same issues, regarding the benefit of clinical breast exams. Based on that review, the ACS recommended starting annual screening mammography at the age of 45 years for all women at average risk of breast cancer, but to offer the opportunity for annual screening mammography starting at age 40 years. The ACS recommended transitioning to screening every other year starting at the age of 55 years, with the option of continuing annual screening. The ACS recommended continuing screening mammography as long as a woman's overall health remains good and her life expectancy is at least 10 additional years. In May 2017, VA announced that it was adopting the 2015 American Cancer Society breast cancer screening guidelines including starting yearly mammograms by age 45 among women of average risk but also giving women a choice to begin screening at age 40, and then transitioning to every other year mammography screening beginning at age 55 and continuing biennial screening as long as a woman's life expectancy is felt to be greater than 10 years.

The ACS did not recommend using the clinical breast exam as a screening method among average-risk women at any age. The ACS defined women at "average risk" as those who do not have a personal history of breast cancer, prior chest radiotherapy at a young age (age 30 or younger), or a suspected or known mutation of a gene, such as the breast cancer (*BRCA*) gene that increases the risk of breast cancer. The ACS also noted that mammography, alone, may not be as effective in women with a higher-than-average risk based on a significant family history, breast density on mammography, or a prior diagnosis of benign proliferative breast disease. Finally, the ACS noted that the risk of false-positives was increased for women receiving their first mammogram, those who had digital instead of film mammography, those who had longer intervals between mammograms, and those who did not have comparison images. The risk of false-positives was also increased in women using postmenopausal hormone therapy and those with mammographically dense breasts. It is important that providers evaluate a woman's risk of breast cancer, discuss the risks and benefits of screening mammography with her, and determine her preferences for screening, particularly for women between the ages of 40 years and 44 years and those aged 55 years or older.

The Breast Cancer Screening documentation template, order set, ECA rule and composite KNART set is intended to prompt clinical providers to identify a woman's breast cancer risk category; counsel her about that risk; identify her screening preferences; screen based on age, risk, and patient preference; and document the entire process. Breast cancer is a common cause of morbidity and mortality among women. Early signs of breast cancer can be detected with mammography, but the question of when to start screening mammography remains somewhat controversial. The latest guidelines published by ACS and as chosen by the VA will be used for these knowledge artifacts. In addition, other constraints for these artifacts are that:

- They apply to female outpatients over the age of 18.

These context domains are summarized in the table below.

**Table 1.1. Clinical Context Domains**

Target User	Provider to include Primary Care, Obstetrics/ Gynecology, Women's Health
Patient	Adult Female
Priority	Routine
Specialty	Primary Care, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Women's Health

<b>Target User</b>	<b>Provider to include Primary Care, Obstetrics/ Gynecology, Women's Health</b>
Location	Outpatient

## 2. Knowledge Artifacts

This section describes the knowledge artifacts that are part of the Women's Health: Breast Cancer Screening group of clinical decision support artifacts, and include:

- Event Condition Action (ECA) Rule: Women's Health: Breast Cancer Screening
  - Rule logic for breast cancer screening
  - Actions may include activating documentation templates or order sets
- Documentation Template: Women's Health: Breast Cancer Screening
  - Documents an encounter between a patient and a provider
  - Includes logic for appropriate display of documentation sections
- Order Set: Women's Health: Breast Cancer Screening
  - Orderable items related to breast cancer screening
  - Includes logic for appropriate display of the order set

---

# Chapter 2. Event Condition Action (ECA) Rules: Breast Cancer Screening

[Begin ECA Rules: Breast Cancer Screening.]

## 1. Knowledge Narrative

[Begin Knowledge Narrative.]

[See Clinical Context in Chapter 1.]

[Clinical Comment: The purpose of the ECA rule set for breast cancer screening is to assess the patient's breast cancer screening status and, if warranted, to document breast cancer risk and screening desires as well as to order the recommended exam. The rule logic is based upon the ACS 2015 published recommendations as summarized in the clinical context. Essentially this entails, starting annual screening mammography at the age of 45 years for all women at average risk of breast cancer, with the opportunity for annual screening mammography to begin as early as age 40 years. Beginning at age 55, transitioning to mammography screening every other year, with the option of continuing annual screening as long as a woman's overall health remains good and her life expectancy is at least 10 additional years. There are two main categories of events that function as triggers for breast cancer screening rules:

- Opening of the patient record during an encounter in a primary care clinic, obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), or a women's health outpatient visit.
- System run of preventive screening rules, run monthly.]

[End Knowledge Narrative.]

## 2. Outpatient Visit, Age $\geq 40$ to $< 45$ Years, Breast Cancer Risk Unknown

[Begin Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 40$  to  $< 45$  Years, Breast Cancer Risk Unknown.]

### *Event*

- Opening of the patient record during an encounter in a primary care clinic, obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), or a women's health outpatient clinic.

### *Conditions*

- Patient is female, age  $\geq 40$  years to  $< 45$  years.
- There is no documentation regarding whether or not the patient has a personal history of breast cancer, prior chest radiotherapy at a young age (up to age 30), or a suspected or known mutation of a gene such as BRCA that increases the risk of breast cancer.
- Patient does not have a documented mammography screening interval.
- Patient has not had mammography within 12 months.

### *Actions*

1. Notify the provider that breast cancer risk has not been assessed.

2. Activate the breast cancer screening history section of the documentation template.
3. Activate the breast cancer risk assessment of the documentation template.

[End Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 40$  to  $< 45$  Years, Breast Cancer Risk Unknown.]

### 3. Outpatient Visit, Age $\geq 40$ to $< 45$ Years, Breast Cancer Screening Preferences Unknown

[Begin Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 40$  to  $< 45$  Years, Breast Cancer Screening Preferences Unknown]

#### *Event*

- Opening of the patient record during an encounter in either a primary care clinic, obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), or women's health outpatient clinic.

#### *Conditions*

- Patient is female, age  $\geq 40$  and  $< 45$  years.
- Patient's preferences for early breast cancer screening have not been documented
- There is documentation that the patient does not have a personal history of breast cancer, prior chest radiotherapy at a young age (up to age 30), or a suspected or known mutation of a gene such as BRCA that increases the risk of breast cancer.
- Patient does not have a documented mammography screening interval.
- Patient has not had mammography within 12 months.

#### *Actions*

3. Notify the provider that options for breast cancer screening should be discussed with the patient and that the discussion should be documented.
4. Activate the declines early breast cancer screening section of the documentation template.
5. If "no" is selected in response to the question "does the patient decline early screening?" set screening interval to annual, activate the breast cancer screening history section of the documentation template, and activate the breast cancer screening order set ECA rule.
6. If "yes" is selected in response to the question "does the patient decline early screening?" set screening interval to "declines early breast cancer screening".

[End Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 40$  to  $< 45$  Years, Breast Cancer Screening Preferences Unknown]

### 4. Outpatient Visit, Age $\geq 45$ to $< 55$ Years

[Begin Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 45$  to  $< 55$  Years.]

#### *Event*

- Opening of the patient record during an encounter in either a primary care, obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), or women's health outpatient clinic.

#### *Conditions*

- Patient is female, age  $\geq 45$  and  $< 55$  years.
- Patient has not had mammography within 12 months.
- Patient does not have a personal history of breast cancer, prior chest radiotherapy at a young age (up to age 30), or a suspected or known mutation of a gene such as BRCA that increases the risk of breast cancer.

#### **Actions**

1. Set screening interval to annual.
2. Activate the breast cancer screening history section of the documentation template.
3. Activate the breast cancer risk assessment of the documentation template.
4. Activate the declines breast cancer screening today section of the documentation template.
5. Activate the breast cancer screening order set ECA rule.

[End Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 45$  to  $< 55$  Years.]

## **5. Outpatient Visit, Age $\geq 55$ to $< 75$ Years, "Stop Screening" Status Unknown**

[Begin Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 55$  to  $< 75$  Years, "Stop Screening" Status Unknown]

#### **Event**

- Opening of the patient record during an encounter in a primary care clinic, obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), or women's health outpatient clinic.

#### **Conditions**

- Patient is female, age  $\geq 55$  and  $< 75$  years.
- "Stop screening." Status has not been documented
- Patient has not had mammography within 12 months.
- Patient does not have a personal history of breast cancer, prior chest radiotherapy at a young age (up to age 30), or a suspected or known mutation of a gene such as BRCA that increases the risk of breast cancer.

#### **Actions**

1. Notify the provider that any medical reasons to stop breast cancer screening should be documented.
2. Activate the breast cancer screening documentation template.
3. If there are any "yes" answers to questions in the stop breast cancer screening section, set screening interval to stop screening
4. If there are any "no" answers to all questions in the stop breast cancer screening section, activate the Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 55$  to  $< 75$  Years ECA rule.

[End Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 55$  to  $< 75$  Years, "Stop Screening" Status Unknown.]

## **6. Outpatient Visit, Age $\geq 55$ to $< 75$ Years**

[Begin Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 55$  to  $< 75$  Years]

### ***Event***

- Opening of the patient record during an encounter in either a primary care clinic, an obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), or a women's health outpatient clinic.

### ***Conditions***

- Patient is female, age  $\geq 55$  and  $< 75$  years.
- Patient has not had mammography within 24 months.
- Patient does not have a mammography screening interval set to "stop screening."
- Patient does not have a personal history of breast cancer, prior chest radiotherapy at a young age (up to age 30), or a suspected or known mutation of a gene such as BRCA that increases the risk of breast cancer.

### ***Actions***

5. Set screening interval to biennial.
6. Notify the provider that options for breast cancer screening should be discussed with patient and that the discussion should be documented.
7. Activate the breast cancer screening documentation template, excluding the declines early breast cancer screening and stop screening sections from the display.
8. Activate the breast cancer screening order set ECA rule.

[End Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 55$  to  $< 75$  Years.]

## **7. Outpatient Visit, Age $\geq 75$ Years, "Stop Screening" Status Unknown**

[Begin Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 75$  Years, "Stop Screening" Status Unknown]

### ***Event***

- Opening of the patient record during an encounter in either a primary care clinic, obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), or women's health outpatient clinic.

### ***Conditions***

- Patient is female age  $\geq 75$  years.
- "Stop Screening" status has not been documented within the past 5 years.
- Patient has not had mammography within 24 months.
- Patient does not have a mammography screening interval set to "stop screening."

### ***Actions***

1. Notify the provider that medical reasons to stop breast cancer screening should be documented.
2. Activate the "stop breast cancer screening" section of the documentation template
3. If there are any "yes" answers to questions in the "stop breast cancer screening" section of the breast cancer screening documentation template, set screening interval to stop screening
4. If there are "no" answers to all questions in the stop breast cancer screening section, activate the "Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 75$  Years, Patient Desire to Continue Breast Cancer Screening Unknown" ECA rule.

[End Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 75$  Years, "Stop Screening" Status Unknown.]

## 8. Outpatient Visit, Age $\geq 75$ Years, Patient Desire to Continue Breast Cancer Screening Unknown

[Begin Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 75$  Years, Patient Desire to Continue Breast Cancer Screening Unknown]

### *Event*

- Opening of the patient record during an encounter in either a primary care clinic, obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), or women's health outpatient clinic.

### *Conditions*

- Patient is female age  $\geq 75$  years.
- Patient has not had bad documentation of breast cancer screening preferences within the past 5 years
- Patient has not had mammography within 24 months.
- Patient does not have a mammography screening interval set to stop screening.
- Patient does not have a personal history of breast cancer, prior chest radiotherapy at a young age (up to age 30), or a suspected or known mutation of a gene such as BRCA that increases the risk of breast cancer.

### *Actions*

1. Notify the provider that options for breast cancer screening should be discussed with the patient and that the discussion should be documented.
2. Activate the declines future breast cancer screening section of the documentation template

[End Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 75$  Years, Patient Desire to Continue Breast Cancer Screening Unknown.]

## 9. Outpatient Visit, Age $\geq 75$ Years, Desires to Continue Screening

[Begin Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq 75$  Years, Desires to Continue Screening]

### *Event*

- Opening of the patient record during an encounter in either a primary care clinic, obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), or women's health outpatient clinic.

### *Conditions*

- Patient is female age  $\geq 75$  years.
- Patient desires to continue breast cancer screening, per documentation completed within the past 5 years.
- Patient has not had mammography within 24 months.
- Patient does not have a mammography screening interval set to "stop screening."

### *Actions*



1. Set screening interval to biennial.
2. Activate the breast cancer screening history and breast cancer risk assessment sections of the breast cancer screening of the documentation template
3. Activate the breast cancer screening order set ECA rule.

[End Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq$  75 Years, Desires to Continue Screening.]

## 10. Outpatient Visit, Age $\geq$ 75 Years, Desires to Stop Screening

[Begin Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq$  75 Years, Desires to Stop Screening]

### *Event*

- Opening of the patient record during an encounter in either a primary care clinic, obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), or women's health outpatient clinic.

### *Conditions*

- Patient is female age  $\geq$  75 years.
- Patient does not have a mammography screening interval set to "stop screening."
- Patient desires to stop breast cancer screening.
- There were no "yes" answers to questions in the "stop breast cancer screening" section of the breast cancer screening documentation template - no bilateral mastectomy, no life expectancy less than 6 months, no life expectancy less than 10 years, no comorbidities making patient unable to tolerate further workup or treatment if indicated for positive screening, and no other reasons to stop breast cancer screening documented.
- Patient has not had mammography within 12 months.
- Patient does not have a personal history of breast cancer, prior chest radiotherapy at a young age (up to age 30), or a suspected or known mutation of a gene such as BRCA that increases the risk of breast cancer.

### *Actions*

1. Set screening interval to stop screening.
2. Activate the "Declines Future Breast/Cancer Screening" section of the Breast Cancer Screening Documentation Template:

[End Outpatient Visit, Age  $\geq$  75 Years, Desires to Stop Screening.]

## 11. Breast Cancer Screening Order Set ECA Rule

[Begin Breast Cancer Screening Order Set ECA Rule.]

### *Event*

- Activation of the breast cancer screening order set ECA rule.

### *Conditions*

- Breast Cancer Screening due date is prior to NOW or in the next 60 days

- The patient is not scheduled for Breast Cancer Screening
- The patient does not decline screening at this time

**Actions**

1. Activate the breast cancer screening order set.

[End Breast Cancer Screening Order Set ECA Rule.]

## 12. Periodic System Run

[Begin Periodic System Run.]

**Event**

[Technical Note: System run of breast cancer screening rule occurs every month on day 1 of the month.]

- System run of Breast cancer screening Every month on day 1 of the month.

**Conditions**

- Breast cancer screening due date is within the time period spanning 1 month ago to 2 months from now
- The patient is not scheduled for breast cancer screening
- The patient does not decline screening at this time

**Actions**

- For facilities that use auto-generated patient notifications: notify the patient of their Breast Cancer Screening due date
- For facilities that do not use auto-generated patient notifications: add the patient to the report of patients due for breast cancer screening with their Breast Cancer Screening due date

[End Periodic System Run.]

[End ECA Rules: Breast Cancer Screening.]

---

# Chapter 3. Documentation Template: Breast Cancer Screening

[Begin Documentation Template: Breast Cancer Screening.]

## 1. Knowledge Narrative

[Begin Knowledge Narrative.]

[See Clinical Context in Chapter 1.]

[Technical comment: The Breast Cancer Screening Documentation Template provides a mechanism for documenting a patient's risk for breast cancer. Although the template below is a series of questions and answers, any information that can be obtained from the system should be pre-filled in a manner that is apparent to the user. There are four sections contained within this documentation template, which may be activated independently:

- Breast Cancer Screening History
- Breast Cancer Risk Assessment
- Decline Breast Cancer Screening
- Stop Breast Cancer Screening]

[End Knowledge Narrative.]

## 2. Breast Cancer Screening History

[Begin Breast Cancer Screening History.]

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have breast implants?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

# No

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have a history of breast cancer screening?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Date

<obtain> Location

<obtain> Results

<link> Mammography Image

# No [If no, then End Breast Cancer Screening History section.]

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have a history of significantly abnormal breast imaging (BIRADS  $\geq 3$ ) and/or history of treatment for breast abnormality?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Abnormal Results

<link> Abnormal Mammography Image

<obtain> Clinical Comments

<Select> Date, Location

# No

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have a history of mammographically dense breasts?

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

# No

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have a history of a breast biopsy?

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Results

# No

[End Breast Cancer Screening History Section.]

### 3. Breast Cancer Risk Assessment

[Begin Breast Cancer Risk Assessment.]

[Section Prompt: Conditions that may increase risk include but are not limited to:

- Personal history of any breast cancer, including ductal carcinoma in situ (*DCIS*).
- History of chest wall radiation at age  $\leq$  30.
- Known or suspected genetic mutation that increases risk of breast cancer, such as BRCA.
- First degree relatives with ovarian cancer or early breast cancer.
- Women with a prior diagnosis of benign proliferative breast disease.
- Women with significant mammographic breast density.]

[Clinical Comment: Estimated lifetime risk of approximately 20% to 25% or greater, as defined by risk assessment models, such as the Breast Cancer Risk Assessment Tool <https://www.cancer.gov/bcrisktool/>.]

[Technical Note: If any boxes are checked “yes”, then display the following notification and document the results.]

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have a personal history of any breast cancer including ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS)?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Details

# No

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have a history of chest wall radiation at age  $\leq 30$ ?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Details

# No

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have a history of known or suspected genetic mutation that increases risk of breast cancer, such as BRCA?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Details

# No

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have any first degree relatives with ovarian cancer or early breast cancer (breast cancer diagnosed prior to age 40)?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Details

# No

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have a history of prior diagnosis of benign proliferative breast disease?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Details

# No

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have an estimated lifetime risk of approximately 20% or greater, as defined by risk assessment models such as the Breast Cancer Risk Assessment Tool <https://www.cancer.gov/bcrisktool/>?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Details

# No

[Section Prompt: Evaluate the patient's risk factors and determine the need for genetic evaluation and/or early, more frequent, or additional breast imaging.]

<obtain> Evaluation details

[End Breast Cancer Risk Assessment.]

## Declines Breast Cancer Screening Today

[Begin Declines Breast Cancer Screening Today.]

[Section Prompt: After discussing the need for breast cancer screening, does the patient decline screening?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Details

# No

[End Declines Breast Cancer Screening Today]

## Declines Future Breast Cancer Screening

[Begin Declines Future Breast Cancer Screening]

[Section Prompt: After discussing the need for breast cancer screening for a patient aged  $\geq 75$ , does the patient decline screening?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Details

# No

[End Declines Future Breast Cancer Screening]

## Declines Early Breast Cancer Screening

[Begin Declines Early Breast Cancer Screening.]

[Section Prompt: After discussing the option for breast cancer screening between ages 40 and 45 years, does the patient decline early screening?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Details

[Technical Note: If yes, set Screening Interval to “Declines Early Breast Cancer Screening.” This is relevant until patient reaches 45 years of age.]

# No

[End Declines Early Breast Cancer Screening.]

## Stop Breast Cancer Screening

[Begin Stop Breast Cancer Screening.]

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have a history of bilateral mastectomy?]

Documentation Template:  
Breast Cancer Screening

---

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

# No

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have a life expectancy less than 6 months?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

# No

[Section Prompt: As the patient's provider, do you feel that there is no net benefit to screening due to life expectancy less than 10 years, or that due to comorbidities the patient will be unable to tolerate further workup or treatment if breast cancer screening were positive?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Date

# No

[Section Prompt: Does the patient have any reason to stop screening in addition to or other than the ones listed above in this section?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Additional reason to stop screening

# No

[End Stop Breast Cancer Screening.]

[End Documentation Template: Breast Cancer Screening.]

---

# Chapter 4. Order Set: Breast Cancer Screening

[Begin Order Set: Breast Cancer Screening.]

## Knowledge Narrative

[Begin Knowledge Narrative.]

[See Clinical Context in Chapter 1.]

[Clinical Comment: This order set applies to any patient that requires breast cancer screening. All orders are routine unless otherwise specified.]

[End Knowledge Narrative.]

## Breast Cancer Screening

[Begin Breast Cancer Screening.]

[Section Prompt: Based upon the patient's history, provide the appropriate detail for the screening mammography order.]

# Perform screening mammography

[Section Selection Behavior: Required.]

<obtain> Brief clinical history

<obtain> Ordering Physician/Provider Name

<obtain> Ordering Physician/Provider Telephone Number

Date desired: <obtain> Desired date

[Section Selection Behavior: Optional]

<obtain> Ordering Physician/Provider Service/Section

<obtain> Ordering Physician/Provider Pager

<obtain> Other Physician/Provider Name Who Should Also Receive Results

<obtain> Other Physician/Provider Service/Section

<obtain> Other Physician/Provider Telephone Number

<obtain> Other Physician/Provider Pager

# Additional views: <obtain> Additional views

[End Breast Cancer Screening.]

[End Order Set: Breast Cancer Screening.]



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# Bibliography/Evidence

*Department of Veterans Affairs. May 2017..* <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/includes/viewPDF.cfm?id=2899> .

*United States Preventative Task Force Breast Cancer Screening Guidelines..* <https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Document/UpdateSummaryFinal/breast-cancer-screening> .

[Oeffinger, 2015] KC Oeffinger, ETH Fontham, R Etzioni, and et al.. “Breast Cancer Screening for Women at Average Risk: 2015 Guideline Update From the American Cancer Society”. *JAMA*. 2015. 314. (15). 1599-1614.

[Pearlman, 2017] M Pearlman, M Jeudy, and D Chelmow. “Breast Cancer Risk Assessment and Screening in Average-Risk Women”. *OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY*. 2017 Jul 1. 130. (1). E1-6.

*American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Screening Guidelines.* <https://www.cancer.org/health-care-professionals/american-cancer-society-prevention-early-detection-guidelines/breast-cancer-screening-guidelines.html> .

# Appendix A. Existing Sample VA Artifacts

Figure A.1. Mammogram Annual Screening

Reason for Request: MAMMOGRAM ANNUAL SCREENING

DATE DESIRED: \*

FIRST PROVIDE CLINICAL HX (LIMIT 240 Chars)>>>

\*

\* ALL INFO IS MANDATORY  
Incomplete requests are automatically cancelled.

1. Is there a palpable lump? \* ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

2. Is there any nipple discharge? \* ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

3. Clinical Exam Done? \* ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Describe any other indications:  
\*

5. Last mammogram date: \*  
and place: \*

6. Hormone replacement therapy? \* ☐ YES ☐ NO

7. Any prior surgery? \* ☐ YES ☐ NO --If so:

8. ORDERING PROVIDER:

NAME:  
SERVICE/SECTION:  
PHONE EXT:  
VA PAGER:  
UCLA PAGER:  
OTHER PAGER(S):

9. IF YOU WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE  
and/or another physician should also receive the results  
please enter the additional contact information below:

PATIENT'S PRIMARY PHYSICIAN:   
pager: phone:

☐ Check this box if you authorize radiology staff to review  
the results of this study with the patient prior to results being

\* Indicates a Required Field

Preview OK Cancel

Figure A.2. Mammogram Screening Clinical Reminder

Reminder Resolution: Mammogram Screening

The VHA recommends women age 50-74 have a mammogram every 2 years. In addition, the decision to start regular screening every two years with mammography for average risk women ages 40-49 should be an individual decision and take the patient's values into account including values about specific benefits and harms.

☐ View more information and links to VHA Guidelines:

---

Screening

☐ Enter orders

☐ Record prior or outside mammogram:

☐ Mammogram currently scheduled

Refusals, Defer or Stop Screening:

☐ Patient declined mammogram. Patient was educated on the risk of delayed screening.

☐ Defer reminder for 4 months

☐ Stop Screening: Breast cancer screening not clinically indicated:

Clear Clinical Maint Visit Info < Back Next > Finish Cancel

Figure A.3. Mammogram Screening

Reminder Resolution: Mammogram Screening

The VHA recommends women age 50-74 have a mammogram every 2 years. In addition, the decision to start regular screening every two years with mammography for average risk women ages 40-49 should be an individual decision and take the patient's values into account including values about specific benefits and harms.

☒ View more information and links to VHA Guidelines:

[VHA Breast Cancer Screening Guidelines](#)

- \*The VHA recommends screening for breast cancer with mammography every 2 years for average risk women age 50 through 74.
- \*The decision to start regular screening every 2 years with mammography for average risk women age 40 to 49 years should be an individual decision and take the patient's values into account including values about specific benefits and harms.
- \*The VHA neither recommends for or against screening for breast cancer for women age 75 and older. The current evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of benefits and harms of screening for breast cancer with mammography in women age 75 and older. If screening for breast cancer with mammography is offered, patients should understand the uncertainty about the balance of benefits and harms.
- \*The VHA neither recommends for or against clinician breast exam for breast cancer screening. The current evidence is insufficient to assess the additional benefits and harms of clinical breast examination beyond mammography for breast cancer screening.
- \*The VHA recommends AGAINST clinicians teaching women how to perform breast self-examination for breast cancer screening. While routinely teaching women how to perform systematic, structured breast self-examinations is not recommended, women should be encouraged to report breast changes or abnormalities they discover to their provider.

---

Screening

☐ Enter orders

☐ Record prior or outside mammogram:

☐ Mammogram currently scheduled

Refusals, Defer or Stop Screening:

☐ Patient declined mammogram. Patient was educated on the risk of delayed screening.

☐ Defer reminder for 4 months

☐ Stop Screening: Breast cancer screening not clinically indicated:

Frequency of Screening

☐ Change the frequency of mammograms for this patient.

Clear Clinical Maint Visit Info < Back Next > Finish Cancel

Figure A.4. Stop Screening Dialogue

☒ Stop Screening: Breast cancer screening not clinically indicated:

☒ Bilateral mastectomy

Location:

Date: \*

Comment:

(CAUTION: this option inactivates all Breast Cancer screening reminders permanently!)

☒ Limited life expectancy < 6 months (CAUTION: inactivates reminder for 1 year)

Comment:

☒ Life expectancy < 5 years or co-morbidities-no net benefit of screening/harms outweigh benefits. \*\*PCP Only

As patient's Primary Care Provider, I believe that this patient is unlikely to experience a net benefit from breast cancer screening, i.e. no benefit is expected or benefits are not expected to outweigh harms for the following reason:

one or both required:

☒ Life expectancy is < 5 years

Specific diagnosis/reason: \*

☒ Patient could not tolerate the further work-up or treatment (if the screen was positive) because of co-morbidities.

Specific diagnoses/reason: \*

(CAUTION: these options inactivate Breast Cancer screening reminders for 5 years)

Optional

☒ I have discussed this with the patient or guardian and we have made a shared decision against screening.

Comments:

☒ Other N/A

Comment: \*

(CAUTION: this option inactivates all Breast Cancer screening reminders PERMANENTLY)

---

# Appendix B. American Cancer Society Guidelines

American Cancer Society Guideline for Breast Cancer Screening, Summary of Recommendations.

See <https://www.cancer.org/health-care-professionals/american-cancer-society-prevention-early-detection-guidelines/breast-cancer-screening-guidelines.html> for complete guidelines.

**Figure B.1. American Cancer Society Guidelines for Breast Cancer Screening, 2015**

**Box 2. American Cancer Society Guideline for Breast Cancer Screening, 2015**

These recommendations represent guidance from the American Cancer Society (ACS) for women at average risk of breast cancer: women without a personal history of breast cancer, a suspected or confirmed genetic mutation known to increase risk of breast cancer (eg, BRCA), or a history of previous radiotherapy to the chest at a young age.

The ACS recommends that all women should become familiar with the potential benefits, limitations, and harms associated with breast cancer screening.

**Recommendations<sup>a</sup>**

1. Women with an average risk of breast cancer should undergo regular screening mammography starting at age 45 years. (*Strong Recommendation*)
  - 1a. Women aged 45 to 54 years should be screened annually. (*Qualified Recommendation*)
  - 1b. Women 55 years and older should transition to biennial screening or have the opportunity to continue screening annually. (*Qualified Recommendation*)
  - 1c. Women should have the opportunity to begin annual screening between the ages of 40 and 44 years. (*Qualified Recommendation*)
2. Women should continue screening mammography as long as their overall health is good and they have a life expectancy of 10 years or longer. (*Qualified Recommendation*)
3. The ACS does not recommend clinical breast examination for breast cancer screening among average-risk women at any age. (*Qualified Recommendation*)

<sup>a</sup>A strong recommendation conveys the consensus that the benefits of adherence to that intervention outweigh the undesirable effects that may result from screening. Qualified recommendations indicate there is clear evidence of benefit of screening but less certainty about the balance of benefits and harms, or about patients' values and preferences, which could lead to different decisions about screening.<sup>12,13</sup>

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# Appendix C. Basic Laboratory Panel Definition

- Blood Urea Nitrogen
- Calcium
- Chloride
- CO<sub>2</sub> (Carbon Dioxide, Bicarbonate)
- Creatinine
- Glucose
- Potassium
- Sodium

---

## Appendix D. Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
ACSGDG	American Cancer Society Guideline Development Group
ACS	Acute Coronary Syndrome
BRCA	Breast Cancer
CDS	Clinical Decision Support
CCWP	Clinical Content White Paper
CO2	Carbon Dioxide
DCIS	Ductal carcinoma in situ
ECA	Event Condition Action
HL7	Health Level 7
KBS	Knowledge Based Systems
KNART	Knowledge Artifact
OB/GYN	Obstetrics/Gynecology
SME	Subject Matter Expert
TO	Task Order
USPTF	United States Preventive Task Force
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs