

Policy Title: Single Breast Exam	
Section: Eligibility	Reference No. SB 100
Effective: May 2010	Revision:

1. SCOPE

All Breast Screening Centre Staff
Client Services Centre Staff

2. POLICY

Women who may present with only one breast for imaging due to congenital breast changes or non breast cancer related surgery (mastectomy) resulting in an inability to have a bilateral mammogram are eligible to participate in the Breast Screening Program. Congenital breast changes that may result in the absence of breast tissue for imaging on one side may include Poland Syndrome and breast hypomastia. In addition, women who may present for screening with a doctor's written request to only image one breast are also eligible to participate in the screening program.

Upon review by the screener reading the exam, if a congenital abnormality does not allow an optimal screening examination the exam can be considered incomplete and will follow the "Incomplete Exam" policy procedure (SB 090). The family physician should be notified by fax to refer the woman to a diagnostic centre to complete the exam. Any available images from the incomplete screening exam should be forwarded to the diagnostic centre to enable completion of the exam.

3. PROCEDURE

- 1) The technologist notes the condition and any positioning problems for the screener's information on the "Technologist Comments Line" on the MA Report.
- 2) The screener reviews the images and:
 - a) If the result is "Normal" based upon the views available for interpretation, the case should follow screening protocol for Normal Results entry. The clerk will enter the results and modify the screen to indicate which unilateral breast exam was performed.
 - b) If the result is "Abnormal" based upon the views available for interpretation, the abnormal case should follow the Fast Track protocol for Abnormal Screening Result.
 - c) If the result is "Unreportable", a referral to a diagnostic centre via the "Incomplete Exam" policy is recommended (fax forms to the Family Physician). Program clerk will follow the ["Incomplete Exam Policy SB 100"](#) procedure. Any available images should be forwarded to the diagnostic centre.

4. RELATED POLICIES

[SB 090 – Incomplete Exam](#)

5. RESPONSIBLE PARTY

Professional Practice Leader – Breast Screening Technologists