

# Mammography **Saves Lives**



**1 in 8 women will get breast cancer — the most common cancer in women.**

40,000 women die from breast cancer each year.

75% of women who get breast cancer are of "average risk" — with no family history of the disease or other high risk factors.

1 in 6 breast cancers are found in women ages 40–49.

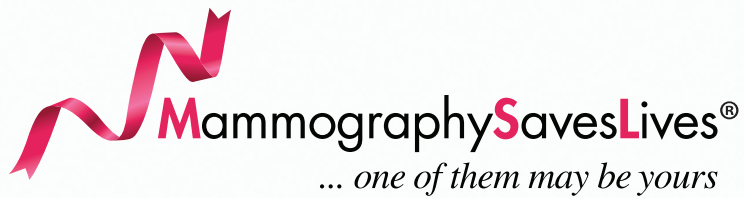
**The most lives are saved from breast cancer when women get screened every year, starting at age 40.**

Starting *yearly* mammograms at age 40 has helped cut breast cancer deaths by more than 40 percent.

- Mammograms can find tumors too small to be felt.
- Small cancers are easier and less costly to treat, and have a better chance for cure.



**MammographySavesLives.org**



**All women should have a risk assessment by age 25 to see if they are at increased risk — particularly black and Jewish women.**

- Just being a woman makes you at “average risk” for breast cancer. That risk increases with age.
- Some women are at higher risk — including those with a family history of breast cancer or a known genetic mutation.
- These women may benefit from additional screening or other preventive measures.

**Mammograms cannot detect all cancers and can detect tissue that may look like cancer but is not.**

- About 10 percent of women who get a screening mammogram will need additional imaging, usually just another mammogram or an ultrasound. One to two percent will need a needle biopsy.
- These issues can cause anxiety, but must be weighed against the potential benefits of early detection of breast cancer.
- Early detection decreases breast cancer deaths and can minimize treatment needed to cure.



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