

政府資助  
Government-subsidised

第二階段  
Phase II

# 乳癌篩查先導計劃 Breast Cancer Screening Pilot Programme

合資格婦女  
Eligible women

35-74歲  
Aged 35-74

香港居民  
Hong Kong residents

高風險  
患乳癌  
At high risk of breast cancer



了解更多合資格群體及服務提供者的資訊  
To know more about eligible groups and service providers



請瀏覽  
Please visit

www.breastscreen.gov.hk



## Breast Cancer Screening Pilot Programme — Phase II

The Government-subsidised Breast Cancer Screening Pilot Programme — Phase II ( “the Programme” ) has commenced. The Government collaborates with designated service providers to provide subsidised breast cancer screening for eligible women at high risk of developing breast cancer.

### Programme Background

Breast cancer screening aims to detect breast cancer at an earlier stage before any symptom appears, so that effective and timely treatment can be given to prevent cancer from progressing. Based on the recommendations of the Cancer Expert Working Group on Cancer Prevention and Screening, the Government has adopted a risk-based approach for breast cancer screening. Women at increased and moderate risk of developing of breast cancer are advised to receive screening every two years while women at high risk of developing breast cancer are advised to receive screening every year.

### Eligibility of Participants

To join the Programme, eligible persons should fulfil all the following criteria:

- Women aged between 35 and 74. For those with family history of breast or ovarian cancer, screening may begin 10 years prior to the age at which their youngest relative was diagnosed (but not earlier than age 30)
- Hold a Hong Kong Identity Card<sup>1</sup> or Certificate of Exemption
- Registered in the Electronic Health Record Sharing System (eHRSS)
- Asymptomatic of breast cancer
- No history of breast cancer
- No mammography screening within the past one year, or due for mammography screening as advised by her doctor at time of enrolment to the Programme
- Being at high risk of breast cancer



### Being at high risk of breast cancer, including

- ✓ Carriers of certain genetic mutation(s) (e.g. BRCA1, BRCA2, etc.) with increased lifetime risk of developing breast cancer, as confirmed by genetic testing. Examples of the list of genes can be found on [www.breastscreen.gov.hk](http://www.breastscreen.gov.hk)

OR

- ✓ With strong family history of breast or ovarian cancer, such as:
  - any first-degree female relative<sup>2</sup> is a confirmed carrier of BRCA1/2 mutations
  - any first- or second-degree female relative<sup>3</sup> with both breast cancer and ovarian cancer
  - any first-degree female relative with bilateral breast cancer
  - any male relative with a history of breast cancer
  - 2 first-degree female relatives with breast cancer AND one of them being diagnosed at age ≤50 years
  - ≥2 first- or second-degree female relatives with ovarian cancer
  - ≥3 first- or second-degree female relatives with breast cancer OR a combination of breast cancer and ovarian cancer



Women having any history as described below are advised to follow up with their doctors and are **NOT eligible** for the Programme:

- History of radiation therapy to the chest for treatment between age 10 and 30
- History of breast cancer
- History of atypical ductal or lobular hyperplasia of the breast

<sup>1</sup> Except those who obtained their Hong Kong Identity Card by virtue of a previous permission to land or remain in Hong Kong granted to them and such permission has expired or ceased to be valid.

<sup>2</sup> A first-degree female relative refers to mother, sister or daughter

<sup>3</sup> A second-degree female relative refers to an aunt, grandmother, grandchild, niece, or half-sibling of an individual

## Breast Cancer Screening Tests

### Mammography



- 1 Mammography is an X-ray examination of the breasts. Studies have shown that mammography is effective in detecting early-stage breast tumours that cannot be easily seen or felt.

- 2 During the procedure, the participant will expose her upper body. By gently compressing the breasts with the X-ray machine's flat plastic paddle, X-ray images of the breasts can be taken at different angles.

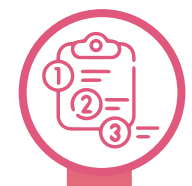
- 3 The participant may feel discomfort or even pain during breast compression, but that part of the mammography usually lasts only a few seconds, and is essential to improve image quality and diagnostic accuracy.

- 4 2D-Mammography is adopted in the Programme.

### Breast ultrasound



- 1 The participant may be advised by the doctor to receive additional breast ultrasound if clinically indicated. Breast ultrasound is a test that visualises the internal environment of the breast by transmitting high frequency sound waves to the breast tissue and converting the reflected echo into image.



Screening Workflow

### Find a service provider

- Browse [www.breastscreen.gov.hk](http://www.breastscreen.gov.hk) for the list of enrolled service providers and their contact information
- Look for the Programme logo displayed in clinics



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### Join the Programme

- Contact your selected service provider and schedule your assessment
- On the day of assessment, show your Hong Kong Identity Card or Certificate of Exemption, and bring along other relevant medical documents as instructed (if any), such as genetic test report, referral letter from medical practitioner, previous breast imaging report, etc.
- If you are assessed as eligible, sign the consent form and make an imaging appointment

2

### Receive mammography screening in associated imaging centres

- (and ultrasound imaging as advised by the doctor)

3

### Receive screening result notification from the service provider

4

#### Normal result

- Repeat assessment and screening every year
- Be breast aware at all times and consult a doctor promptly if you notice any unusual breast changes

#### Abnormal result

- Consult the doctor for discussion of screening result and follow-up plan
- (If indicated) Receive additional mammography and/or breast ultrasound as advised by the doctor
- (If indicated) Receive referral to specialists

### Other services that high risk women might consider (Not covered under the Programme)

Women at high risk of breast cancer might consider other services along with regular mammography screening under the Programme, depending on the risk factors they have. These services include magnetic resonance imaging screening of the breast, genetic counselling and testing, and consultation with specialists (e.g. breast surgeons, gynaecologists) on breast cancer risk reduction strategies. While these services are not covered under the Programme, participants may be referred to other medical institutions where they can access these services and receive personalised care. However, the participants shall bear the incurred costs.



## Details of service providers and co-payment

### Where to get screened

Visit [www.breastscreen.gov.hk](http://www.breastscreen.gov.hk) for the list of service providers and their medical clinics providing subsidised breast cancer screening service. Please choose and contact your preferred service provider to make an appointment for consultation.



### Co-payment

While the Programme is subsidised by the Government, individual service providers may request participants to make a co-payment for their imaging services on top of the Government subsidy. The co-payment is no more than \$225 per each mammography or ultrasound screening. Details of the co-payment are listed on the Programme's website.

### Please note:

1. All screening tests are not 100% accurate. They have limitations and carry potential risks, e.g. false-positives, false-negatives, over-diagnosis and unnecessary treatment.
2. Women who wish to receive breast cancer screening should discuss with their doctor the potential benefits and harms before they receive the screening.
3. The listed service providers shall be professionally accountable for all related clinical care and management. The Government bears no responsibility and obligation in this context.
4. If participants are referred to other medical institutions for further investigation or management, the cost incurred from these services will not be subsidised under the Programme.

For more information about the Programme, please visit [www.breastscreen.gov.hk](http://www.breastscreen.gov.hk)



Breast Cancer Screening  
Pilot Programme — Phase II



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