

Dear Colleague,

Health care providers, radiologists, breast surgeons, and advocates have been working together to implement consistent recommendations and strategies in effort to improve our region's breast cancer screening rates, decrease late-stage breast cancer diagnosis, and improve time from diagnosis to treatment.

It is estimated that 2,190 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in Nevada in 2019 and 400 lives will be lost to this disease. Nevada's mammography rate remains below the national average of 72.4%, currently sitting at 67%. In addition to other factors, the numerous and significantly different screening mammography guidelines has resulted in conflicting recommendations from physicians and created uncertainty for women.

As such, our region has adopted the most recent evidence-based recommendations from American Society of Breast Surgeons (ASBrS) released in May 2019.

ASBrS Breast Cancer Screening Recommendations:

1. Women age >25 should undergo formal risk assessment for breast cancer
2. Women with an average risk of breast cancer should initiate yearly screening mammograph at age 40
3. Women with a higher-than-average risk of breast cancer should undergo yearly screening mammography and be offered yearly supplemental imaging; this screening should be initiated at a risk-based age
4. Screening mammography should cease when life expectancy is <10 years

For the official ASBrS statement: <https://www.breastsurgeons.org/docs/statements/Position-Statement-on-Screening-Mammography.pdf>

By collaborating as a region, we can provide the best care to our patients and achieve better outcomes, increasing quality of life in our communities.

Supporting Organizations:

Access to Healthcare
Cancer Care Specialists
Carson Tahoe Health
Carson Valley Medical Center
Community Health Alliance
Each One. Tell One.
Hometown Health
Nevada Cancer Coalition
Northern Nevada Medical Center & Group

Reno Diagnostic Centers
Reno Radiological Associates
Reno Surgical Associates
Renown Health
Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center
University of Nevada, Reno
Western Surgical Group