

Breast care nurses

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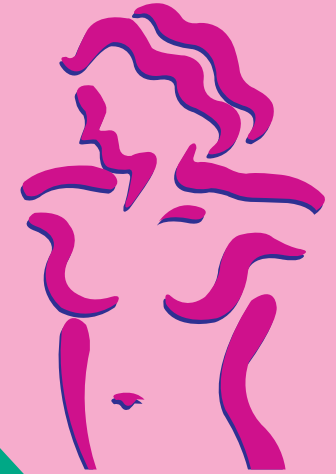
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Breast screening



What to expect at your second visit



Health
Promotion
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● Why have I been called back for a second visit?

You have been invited to attend a breast assessment clinic, which is a continuation of the screening system. About 1 in every 20 women need to return for further tests after a breast x-ray (mammogram). This does not necessarily mean that there is anything wrong - 4 out of 5 women recalled are given normal results following these tests.

● What happens at a breast assessment clinic?

The reason for the visit will be explained to you when you come to the clinic. You will be asked about any breast problems and given a chance to ask questions. A number of tests may then be carried out. These include:

- an examination of your breasts by a doctor;
- breast x-rays - mammograms showing different views of your breast;
- ultrasound - a painless scan which shows a picture of the tissues within the breast;
- cytology - a few cells may be removed from your breast with a very fine needle and examined under a microscope. This test is similar to having blood taken;
- a biopsy - a small area of breast tissue may be removed and examined under the microscope. This is carried out under local anaesthetic.

You may not require all of these tests. During these tests a female member of staff will be with you.

● How long will the visit take?

Please be prepared to spend at least 2 hours at the clinic, although this is not always necessary.

● Can I bring someone with me?

We would encourage you to bring your partner, a relative or a friend.

● When do I get my results?

Depending on the tests you will either be told your results before you leave or you will be asked to return in a week's time for the results. If you require further treatment the options will be fully explained to you.

● Who can I talk to if I have any further questions?

Your local breast care nurse would be happy to answer any questions.

