Our physicians partner with our patients in the early detection, diagnosis and treatment of breast disease.

ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL
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St Peter’s Hospital
Breast Center

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St Peter’s Health Partners
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What is Mammography?

A mammogram is a low dose X-ray exam of the breast. The main reason a mammogram is ordered is to identify breast cancer in its very early stages, often years before it is large enough to be felt as a lump. Mammography is currently the best method of screening for breast cancer.

Quality is important to us. The Breast Center uses only modern, state-of-the-art mammography equipment. Our mammography program is fully accredited by the American College of Radiology. Our mammography technologists are certified and registered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. Your study will be interpreted by radiologists who are certified by the American Board of Radiology.

Comparison with any or all prior mammograms is extremely important, and in some cases can help avoid unnecessary biopsy. If you have had mammograms at other facilities, please bring them with you.

What Can I Expect?

A mammogram usually consists of two views of each breast. The breast is positioned on a dedicated Mammography System and firm pressure (compression) is applied to flatten the breast. Be prepared to tolerate firm compression, which will only last a few seconds. It is essential to a high quality exam. In fact, many abnormalities would be hidden without it. Please help us get the best exam for you.

After your images are complete, they will be read by one of our radiologists who specializes in Breast Imaging. Your report is then mailed to your referring physician. You will also receive a report in the mail within several business days of the reading.

How Do I Prepare?

The best time to schedule your mammogram is seven to 10 days after your menstrual cycle, when the breasts are least tender.

If possible, try to avoid caffeine three to five days prior to your examination, as it can increase breast sensitivity.

Please do not use deodorants, body powders or cream on the day of your exam. These products may interfere with your breast images. It is convenient to wear a two-piece outfit, since you will need to undress from the waist up.

If there is any possibility you are pregnant or nursing, please inform our staff prior to the examination.

Please arrive approximately 20 minutes prior to your appointment to allow for registration and changing.

If I Have Questions, Who Do I Call?

If you have questions, please feel free to call the Breast Center at 525-7536 from 7 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. To make an appointment, please call the Department of Medical Imaging at 525-1401 between 8 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

Where Do I Need To Go?

St. Peter’s Breast Center is located on the third floor of 317 South Manning Boulevard, Suite 305. For a map and directions, visit www.sphcs.org/mapdirections or call (518) 525-7536.