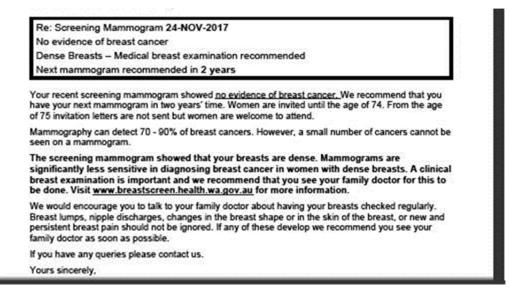# Dense Breast Survey: Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I know if I have dense breasts?

You will have received a results letter from BreastScreen WA recently. For women with dense breasts, it will state "Dense Breasts" in the box at the top and the body of the letter would have provided information on breast density.

Re: Screening Mammogram 24-NOV-2017
No evidence of breast cancer
Dense Breasts – Medical breast examination recommended
Next mammogram recommended in 2 years

Your recent screening mammogram showed no evidence of breast cancer. We recommend that you have your next mammogram in two years' time. Women are invited until the age of 74. From the age of 75 invitation letters are not sent but women are welcome to attend.

Mammography can detect 70 - 90% of breast cancers. However, a small number of cancers cannot be seen on a mammogram.

The screening mammogram showed that your breasts are dense. Mammograms are significantly less sensitive in diagnosing breast cancer in women with dense breasts. A clinical breast examination is important and we recommend that you see your family doctor for this to be done. Visit www.breastscreen.health.wa.gov.au for more information.

We would encourage you to talk to your family doctor about having your breasts checked regularly. Breast lumps, nipple discharges, changes in the breast shape or in the skin of the breast, or new and persistent breast pain should not be ignored. If any of these develop we recommend you see your family doctor as soon as possible.

If you have any queries please contact us.

Yours sincerely,

2. What should I do if I have dense breasts?

If your results letter indicated that you have dense breasts, we recommend that you see your family doctor for a clinical breast examination.

"The screening mammogram showed that your breasts are dense. Mammograms are significantly less sensitive in diagnosing breast cancer in women with dense breasts. We advise you to see your family doctor for a clinical breast examination. Visit www.breastscreen.health.wa.gov.au for more information."

3. What if I have a technical issue with completing the survey online?

If you need technical support completing the survey you can call 0448 021 760 or email densitysurvey-gohad@uwa.edu.au. You may also complete the survey over telephone by emailing densitysurvey-gohad@uwa.edu.au or texting 0448 021 760 to arrange an appointment.

4. Why did I receive this email?

Research projects are conducted to evaluate and improve the quality of the BreastScreen WA service, to plan for future needs and to investigate breast disease. Researchers who work with BreastScreen WA must follow strict guidelines and maintain the confidentiality of the information and the individual at all times. Women's names or identifying details are never used in reports, presentations or published statistics.

We do not share your information with any organisations.

We can email you a copy of our "Use of your personal information and data fact sheet.

http://www.breastscreen.health.wa.gov.au/~/media/0A390ACF1649463AB38F7B0B3C0BB1E6.ashx

This invitation to participate in the survey was sent to:-

All women who:
- have recently attended BreastScreen WA,
- have provided BreastScreen WA with an email address,
- and were not called back for assessment