



Unfortunately, mammography is not always possible

Thank you for attending BreastScreen WA today for your screening mammogram. Unfortunately, even after all our combined best efforts, we were unable to perform your breast X-ray examination.

Mammography is a procedure which requires specific positioning for long enough to take X-rays which are not blurry, and very occasionally is not possible.

Your safety, and achieving the best possible outcome, are our top priorities.

Why couldn't we do it?

To perform a mammogram examination safely there are some requirements that must be met, including

- sufficient muscle control to hold your upper body and arms in the position required, and remain motionless for 30 seconds
- the ability to hold your breath for the time required
- consenting to the procedure, such as not pulling away from the machine
- coping emotionally with the unfamiliar situation and environment

What happens next?

A Senior team member from BreastScreen WA will now contact your GP and inform them of today's outcome. We strongly encourage you to contact your GP to discuss other screening methods that may be more appropriate.

Being breast aware

Get to know your breasts and what is normal for you. Look in the mirror at your breasts and perform a self-examination. If you notice any unusual changes in your breasts such as lumps, nipple discharge, or persistent new breast pain, even if your last screening mammogram was normal, please see your GP promptly.

For any further information please call 13 20 50 and ask to speak to a Senior Medical Imaging Technologist.