

FAQ

Québec Breast Cancer Screening Program (PQDCS)

The 10 questions most frequently asked about the Program

1. I just turned 50. When will I receive my letter?

If you just turned 50, you will automatically receive a referral letter during the year. Once you have had your first mammogram, you will get a referral letter every 23 months following the date of your most recent examination.

If you haven't received the letter or if you have questions about the mailing, contact the Montréal Regional Coordination Centre at [514-528-2424](tel:514-528-2424).

2. I lost my referral letter from the Breast Cancer Screening Program. What should I do?

If you've lost your referral letter, call the Montréal Coordination Centre at [514-528-2424](tel:514-528-2424). The professional who answers your call will send you a copy of the letter as quickly as possible.

3. I recently moved . What should I do?

If you've recently moved, you should know that RAMQ updates all addresses twice a year. Your change of address will be noted in our files when the update is done. However, if you are due for your mammogram a few months after you've moved, contact the Montréal Coordination Centre at [514-528-2424](tel:514-528-2424).

4. I've received my referral letter. Can I use it in a clinic that isn't recognized by the Program?

Only radiology clinics recognized by the Program to do screening mammograms are obliged to take you. Therefore, if you go to another clinic, you will not have access to free screening mammograms.

5. Are screening mammograms free?

Screening mammograms are free in all radiology clinics recognized by the program. To access this free test, you will need your letter (or a prescription from your doctor) as well as a valid health insurance card.

6. I'm under 50 years old. Can I participate in the program?

The program is intended for women aged 50 to 69. However, if you're worried or have a history of breast cancer in your family, you can ask your doctor for a screening mammogram. You can then have your test done in one of the radiology clinics recognized by the program to do screening mammograms. You will need a referral from your doctor. You should know that screening mammograms are free from the age of 35.

7. I'm over 69 years old. Can I still participate in the program?

The program is intended for women aged 50 to 69. However, you can talk to your doctor to decide how often you should have a screening mammogram, based on your state of health. With a referral from your doctor, you can have the test done for free in one of the radiology clinics recognized by the program to do screening mammograms.

8. My doctor sends me to have a mammogram every year. Can I participate in the program anyway?

You can always participate in the program between the ages of 50 to 69. You must have your mammogram done in one of the radiology clinics recognized by the program. You will need a referral from your doctor each time you have a mammogram. However, you will also be eligible for all the benefits of the program. You will receive your results in the mail and the program will ensure that you are followed.

9. A doctor who volunteers for the program has provided follow-up. Can this person become my family doctor?

Doctors who volunteer for the program accept to provide follow-up for your mammogram results for women who don't have family doctors. However, these doctors already have their own patients and it is difficult for them to take on new patients. Therefore, a volunteer doctor cannot become your family doctor.

10. I have a visible symptom on one of my breasts. Should I wait for my letter before I have a mammogram?

If you have a symptom (e.g. lump, discharge, redness), we recommend that you see a doctor right away. You shouldn't wait for the letter if you have one or several symptoms.

If you have any questions, contact the [Québec Breast Cancer Screening Program team](#).

Ligne Info-Mammo : 514 528-2424



www.santemontreal.qc.ca/pqdc