

# Digital Breast Tomosynthesis (DBT): Initial Experience in a Clinical Setting

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Published online on 16 May 2012 Acta Radiol, doi: 10.1258/ar.2012.120062

## OBJECTIVE

A side-by-side comparison of tomosynthesis and digital mammography for cancer conspicuity and to assess whether tomosynthesis adds any additional value in detecting more cancers to the current standard imaging work-up.

## METHODS

The study included 129 women. They were examined first with digital mammography, with additional magnification and / or cone-down views, also needle biopsies and ultrasonography, if indicated, lastly followed by tomosynthesis. The tomosynthesis exams were interpreted several weeks after the conventional mammography.

## FINDINGS

Of the 129 women included in the study:

- Needle biopsies were performed on 45 breasts, of which 25 cancers were found and the remaining 20 were benign.
- The remaining 84 women exams were interpreted to be normal or definite benign findings and no needle biopsy was indicated.
- The subsequent interpretation of tomosynthesis exams resulted in additional 4 suspicious findings.
- These 4 women were called back for repeat work-up of which 2 were definite cancers and 2 were false-positive findings.

## CONCLUSION

Compared to conventional digital mammography, in this study of 129 women, tomosynthesis increased cancer detection. The authors conclude that the technique has the potential for increasing sensitivity in cancers appearing as spiculated masses and distortions.

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