

## Adding DBT to Screening Mammo Boosts Benefits, but Not Cost

A [study](#) published online in the journal Radiology reports that adding digital breast tomosynthesis (DBT) to biennial screening mammography is a cost effective way to improve breast cancer detection in women with dense tissue. Researchers say where dense tissue is involved DBT is more effective than MRIs and ultrasounds. Further, DBT does not take long to complete during mammography exams. It also does not require a second modality and does not increase the false-positive rate. Lead author of the study Dr. Christoph Lee from the University of Washington says, the benefits of DBT also include early detection and lower mortality rates. The study reports that adding DBT to screenings for women ages 50 to 74 came in at almost 50 percent lower than the \$100,000 limit for cost effectiveness. Specifically, the cost per quality-adjusted life year when DBT is included to mammography amounted to \$58,893.

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