

Study: Breast cancer detection not better with computer aid

September 28 2015, by Lindsey Tanner



Micrograph showing a lymph node invaded by ductal breast carcinoma, with extension of the tumour beyond the lymph node. Credit: Nephron/Wikipedia

New research says computer-assisted detection used in most U.S. mammograms adds no benefit to women.

The [technique](#) uses special software to highlight suspicious areas on mammogram images that radiologists reading the scans may have missed. Doctors take another look before making a determination.

Screening mammograms are [preventive care](#) and most women don't pay more for the technique, but the researchers say it adds millions to U.S. [health care costs](#),

Previous studies suggesting benefits mostly involved older film mammograms. Most scans now are digital. The study involved nearly 324,000 U.S. women who had screening mammograms, most with computer assistance and some without. The overall cancer detection rate was about 4 in 1,000 women and was identical in both groups.

The study appears in Monday's *JAMA Internal Medicine*.

© 2015 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Citation: Study: Breast cancer detection not better with computer aid (2015, September 28) retrieved 10 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-09-breast-cancer-aid.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--