

Preoperative breast MRI use increased from 2003 to 2012

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(HealthDay)—From 2003 to 2012 there was a significant increase in preoperative breast magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) use in women with breast cancer, according to a study published online Sept. 24 in *JAMA Oncology*.

Angel Arnaout, M.D., from Ottawa Hospital in Canada, and colleagues describe patterns of preoperative breast MRI utilization in a [health care](#) system with universal insurance. Data were included from administrative health care databases in Ontario, Canada, in a [retrospective cohort study](#). The cohort included 53,015 patients with primary operable [breast cancer](#) who were treated from 2003 to 2012.

The researchers found that 14.8 percent of patients underwent a preoperative MRI. There was an eight-fold increase in MRI use across all stages during the 10-year study period (from 3 to 24 percent; P

"Preoperative breast MRI use has increased substantially in routine clinical practice and is associated with a significant increase in ancillary investigations, wait time to surgery, mastectomies, and contralateral prophylactic mastectomies," the authors write.

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