

# Perceived breast density may affect single read suitability

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(HealthDay)—Features related to mammographic breast density are key

normal mammographic features that influence the difficulty for readers to classify mammograms as normal, according to a study published online Jan. 3 in the *Journal of Medical Imaging and Radiation Oncology*.

Zoey Z.Y. Ang, from the University of Sydney, and colleagues examined how [breast](#) screen readers classify normal screening cases using mammography features. Fifteen breast screen readers interpreted a set of 29 normal screening cases and classified them by their perceived difficulty to reach a "normal" decision. They identified the normal mammographic features of the cases and examined the cases' suitability for a single reading strategy.

The researchers observed a moderate to strong correlation between the difficulty to make "normal" decisions and regular ductal pattern, uniform [density](#), non-dense breasts, symmetrical mammographic features, and overlapped density. Cases with regular ductal pattern, uniform density, non-dense breasts, and symmetrical mammographic [features](#) were more suitable for single reading, while cases with overlapped density were not.

"The findings suggest that perceived mammographic breast density has a major influence on the difficulty for readers to classify cases as normal and hence their suitability for single reading," the authors write.

**More information:** [Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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