

Family history of breast cancer: information for GPs



BreastScreen
Victoria

Caring about Women

Referral and management summary for general practice

This summary outlines BreastScreen Victoria (BSV)'s family history risk assessment tool and a management summary for GPs. **BSV family history risk assessment tool** uses the information women provide on their family history of breast and ovarian cancer. It does not include all risk factors for breast cancer. Other factors may increase or decrease a woman's risk of developing breast cancer. It is important women are aware of this and discuss their possible increased risk of breast cancer further with their GP if concerned. More details on the reverse side.

Summary of BSV family history risk assessment tool and management recommendation

AVERAGE RISK	MODERATELY INCREASED RISK	POTENTIALLY HIGH RISK
<p>Women with one of the following: No family history of breast or ovarian cancer. One first degree relative diagnosed over the age of 50. One or more second degree relatives diagnosed with breast or ovarian cancer.</p>	<p>The most common factor will be a woman having a first degree female relative diagnosed under 50 with breast cancer or over 50 with bilateral breast cancer. A woman at moderate risk may have several relatives with breast cancer but no obvious pattern of the disease. In these families, although breast cancer may affect people in several generations, they tend to be affected at older ages.</p>	<p>Women at high risk usually have several close relatives with breast cancer, ovarian cancer or both over several generations – for example grandmother, mother and daughter – who are often diagnosed at a young age. This also includes a personal history of ovarian cancer. Multiple first and second degree relatives with breast and/or ovarian cancer diagnosed at a younger age and/or bilaterality. Male breast cancer.</p>
Risk level	Risk level	Risk level
<p>Risk is similar to other women the same age. Women of this risk level have a 1 in 8 chance of developing breast cancer by the age of 75.</p>	<p>Women of this risk level have between a 1 in 8 and 1 in 4 chance of developing breast cancer by the age of 75.</p>	<p>Women of this risk level have over 1 in 4 chance of developing breast cancer by the age of 75. If a woman decides to continue screening with BreastScreen Victoria.</p>
Management	Management	Management
<p>Advise on breast awareness. Advise to report any persistent symptoms of breast disease promptly. Advise to report a change in family history to BreastScreen Victoria. Encourage women from age 50 to attend BSV for two-yearly screening mammograms.</p>	<p>Advise on breast awareness. Advise to report any persistent symptoms of breast disease promptly. Advise to report a change in family history to BreastScreen Victoria. Annual clinical breast examination. Refer women for annual screening mammograms with BreastScreen Victoria if aged 40-49, and two-yearly screens if aged 50-74 years. If the woman wants a more detailed risk assessment or has other concerns you may consider a referral to an appropriate specialist or Familial Cancer Centre.</p>	<p>Advise on breast awareness. Advise to report any persistent breast symptoms to her doctor. Refer to Familial Cancer Centre for a detailed risk assessment and discussion of management options. If woman prefers to continue screening with BreastScreen Victoria, refer for annual screening mammograms if aged 40-59, and two-yearly screens if aged 60-74 years.</p>
Screening recommended	Screening recommended	Screening recommended
<p>50-74 years Screen every 2 years.</p>	<p>40-49 years Screen every year. 50-74 years Screen every 2 years.</p>	<p>40-59 years Screen every year. 60-74 years Screen every 2 years.</p>

Note: The BSV Family History Tool is based on the Cancer Australia Familial Risk Assessment Tool for Breast and Ovarian Cancer (FRA-BOC), eviQ Clinical Guidelines from the Cancer Institute NSW and NICE, and was developed in conjunction with the Familial Cancer Centre of The Royal Melbourne Hospital.

BreastScreen Victoria family history guidelines

Genetics and breast cancer

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among Australian women, affecting about 1 in 8 women up to the age of 75 years. Approximately 1 in 1,000 women have an inherited mutation in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes. This increases the lifetime risk to between 40% and 80%. However, most breast cancers occur sporadically, with less than 5% attributable to the inheritance of a dominant cancer predisposing gene.

Family history risk assessment

BreastScreen Victoria (BSV) collects information about women's family history of breast and ovarian cancer. A new **BSV family history risk assessment tool** will use the information women provide us about their family history to estimate if women are at increased risk of developing breast cancer. The tool omits other risk factors including:

- the presence of Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry,
- a family member diagnosed with bone/soft tissue sarcoma at age 45 or younger
- a relative where a high-risk breast cancer gene mutation has been already identified.

Women with these risk factors will most likely require referral to a Familial Cancer Centre.

The **BSV family history risk assessment tool** estimates a woman's risk against three levels of risk, as outlined in the table (see over).

Women assessed as being at increased risk due to their family history information will be advised of their risk rating and what they should do next. A copy of this advice will also be sent to the woman's doctor.

Management of women assessed as increased risk

Women assessed at potentially high risk are advised to discuss their individual circumstances with their doctor.

Women assessed as at moderately increased risk are advised to see their doctor if they have any concerns or questions.

As the **BSV family history risk assessment tool** does not include all risk factors, GPs may choose to:

- undertake a complete assessment using Cancer Australia's FRA-BOC or similar tool such as IBIS (<http://www.ems-trials.org/riskevaluator/>)
- refer the woman to a specialist Familial Cancer Centre.

Familial Cancer Centres in Victoria

Parkville Integrated Familial Cancer Centre at PCCC

Royal Melbourne Hospital
Phone 0393427151,
email familycancer@mh.org.au
Clinics in Parkville, Sunshine, Geelong, Warnambool

Peter MacCallum Hospital

Phone 03 85595322,
Email FamilialCancer@petermac.org
Clinics in Parkville, Box Hill, Bendigo, Mildura

Monash Health Familial Cancer Centre

Phone 03 95942009
Email familial.cancer@monashhealth.org
Clinics in Clayton, Moorabbin, Prahran (Alfred), Frankston, Moe

Austin Health Familial Cancer Centre

Phone 0394963027
Email genetics@austin.org.au
Clinics in Heidelberg, Ballarat, Wodonga, Shepparton

Cabrini Familial Cancer Service (private hospital)

Phone 0395081222
Email fcc@ocv.net.au
Clinic in Malvern

Further information

BreastScreen Victoria

breastscreen.org.au/familyhistory or call 13 20 50

Cancer Council Victoria

cancervic.org.au

EVIQ Cancer Treatments on-line

eviq.org.au (search for cancer genetics, free registration)

Familial Risk Assessment-Breast and Ovarian Cancer (FRABOC)

canceraustralia.gov.au (search "FRABOC")

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breastscreen.org.au or call 13 20 50



Translated information: breastscreen.org.au/translations



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