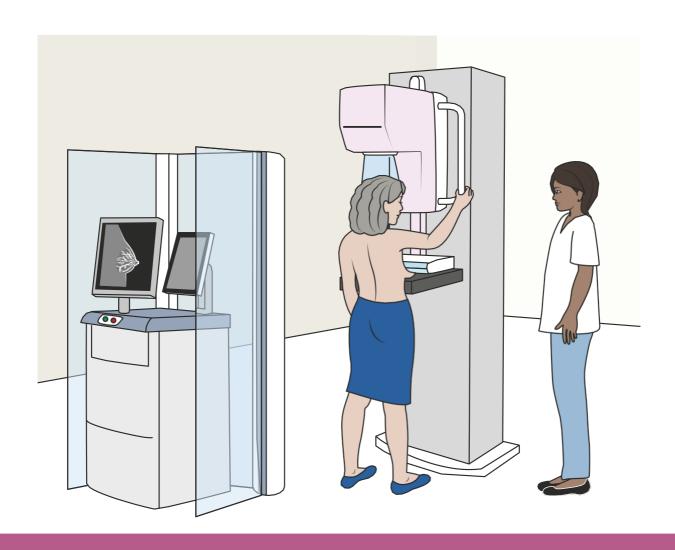
# A mammogram

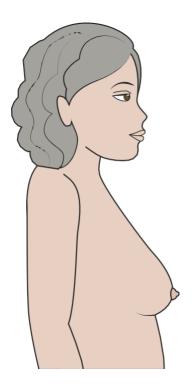


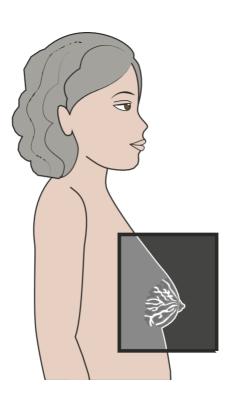




# What is it for?

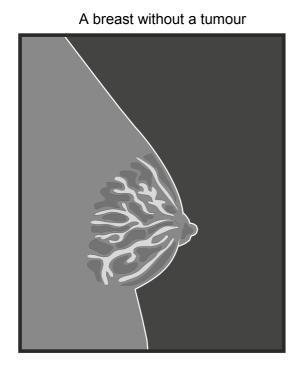
#### A mammogram is an x-ray of your breasts.

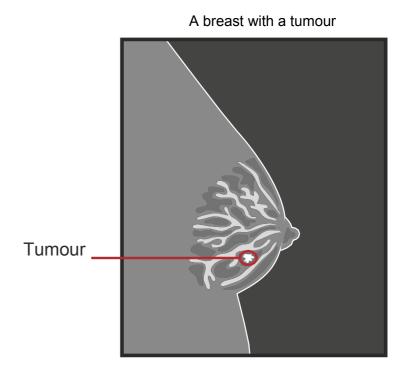




#### A mammogram lets you see if you have a tumour in your breasts.

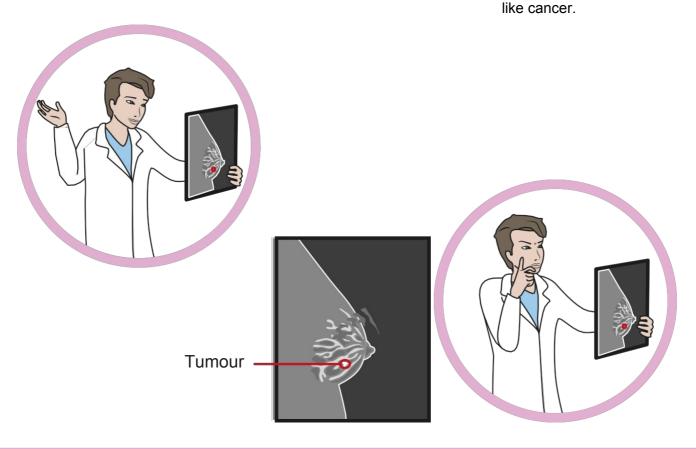
#### A tumour is a sort of lump.





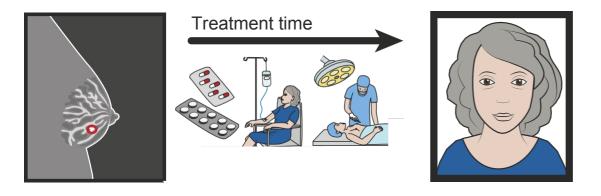
Some tumours are not serious.

Some tumours are serious

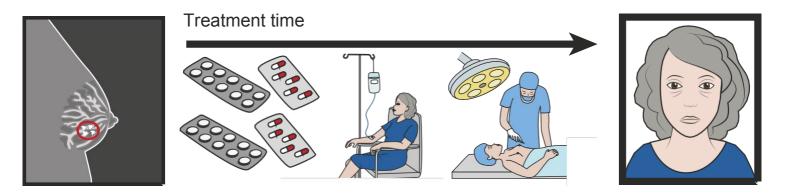


#### A mammogram lets me see if I have cancer.

■ If the cancer is detected early, my treatment is easier.



■ If the cancer is detected later, my treatment is more difficult.



# When do I need a mammogram?

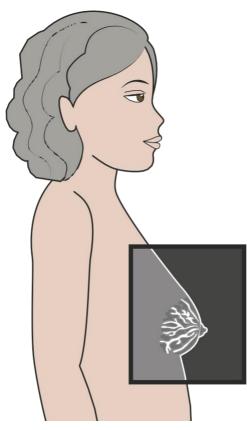
If I am over 50 years old and I receive an invitation

for regular screening,

or if my doctor gave me a prescription.





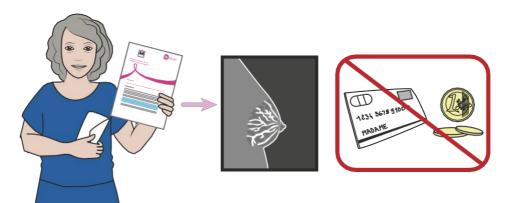


#### If I am over 50 years old: I receive an invitation for a mammogram

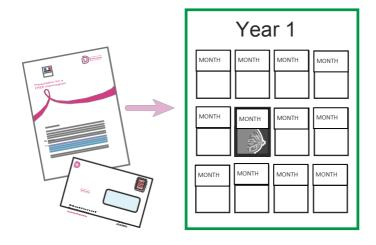


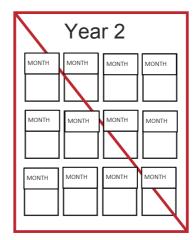


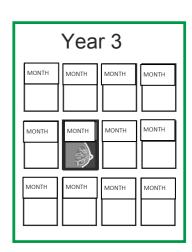
■ This invitation offers me a mammogram completely free of charge.



After I am over 50 years old, I receive an appointment every two years.





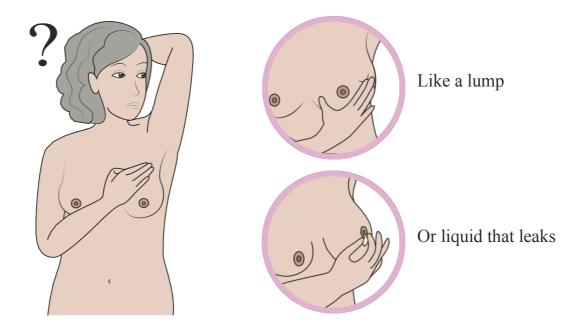


#### The doctor gives me a prescription for a mammogram



If I feel something unusual when I squeeze my breast.

See the "Self-examination" fact-sheet

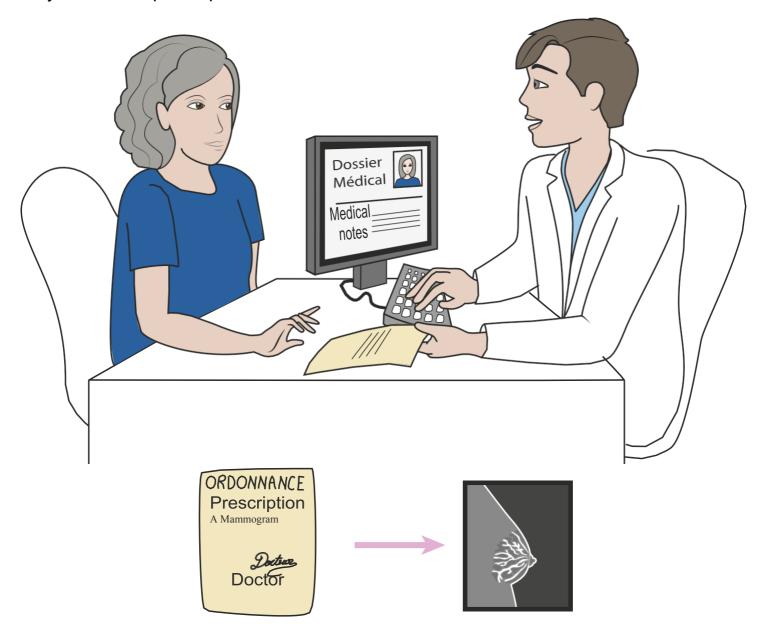


If my doctor notices something abnormal in my breasts.
See our fact-sheet "Gynaecology" breast examination.



#### My doctor may tell me to have a mammogram.

They write me a prescription.



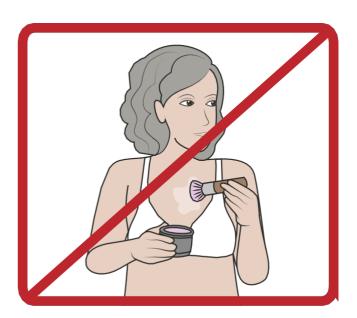
# What happens?

#### The day before my mammogram I must not use:

Body cream,

powder.

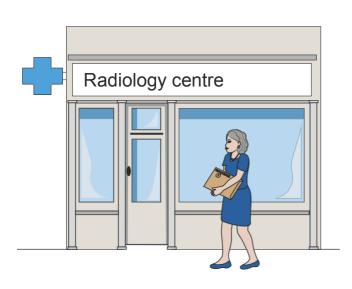


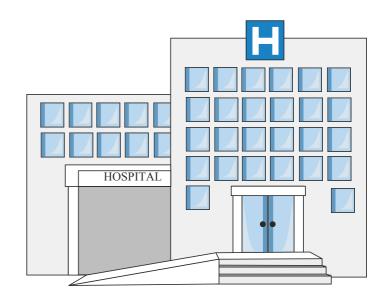


#### I can have a mammogram:

At a radiology centre,

or in a clinic or hospital.





#### I bring the pictures from my last mammogram.

with the letter I received,

with the prescription from my doctor.

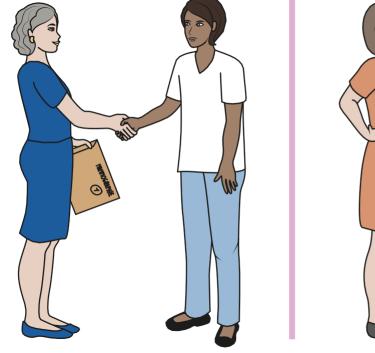


#### The radiographer meets me.

The radiographer is the person who operates the X-Ray machine.

I can come on my own,

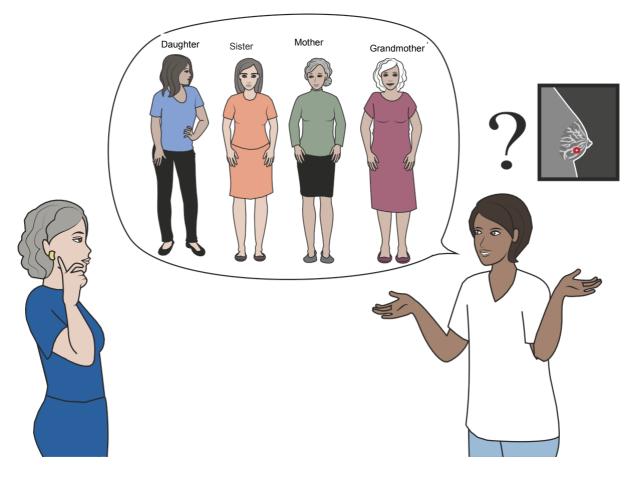
or somebody can accompany me.



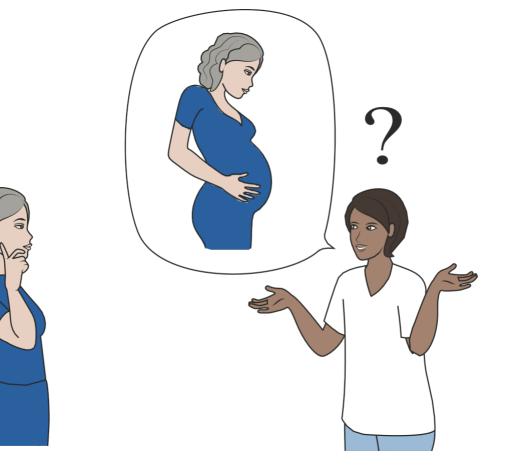


#### The radiographer asks me:

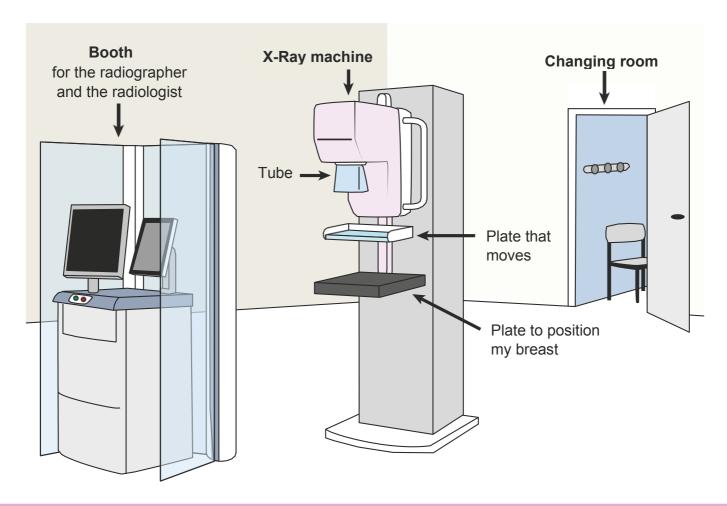
#### If anybody in my family has had problems with their breasts?



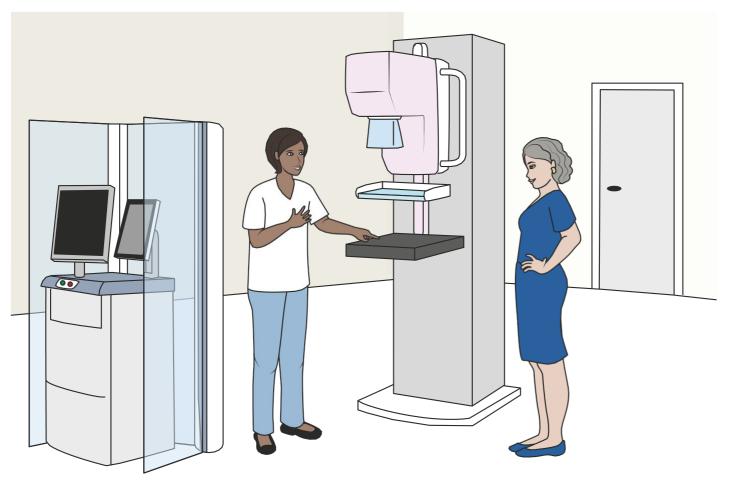
#### If I am pregnant?



#### I go into the X-Ray room.



#### The technician explains what is going to happen.



#### The person who accompanies me can stay with me.

■ The radiographer gives them clothes like a protective apron.

For example: a protective apron



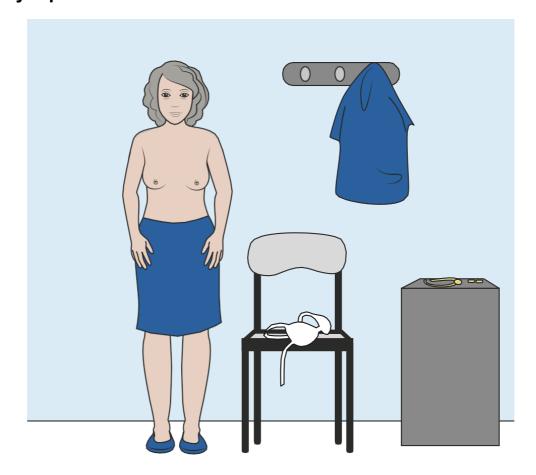
#### I go into the changing room.

I take off my jewellery.





### I undress my top half.

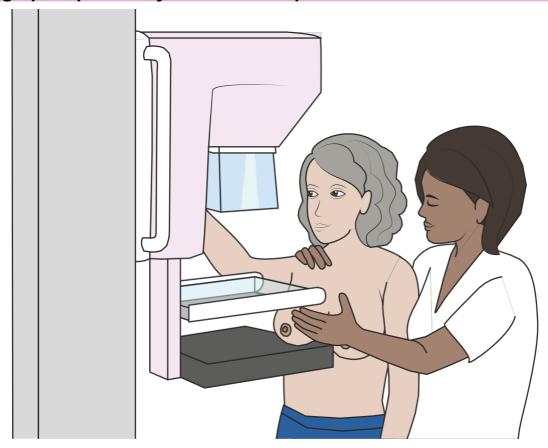


## I stand facing the machine.

#### I hold the bar.

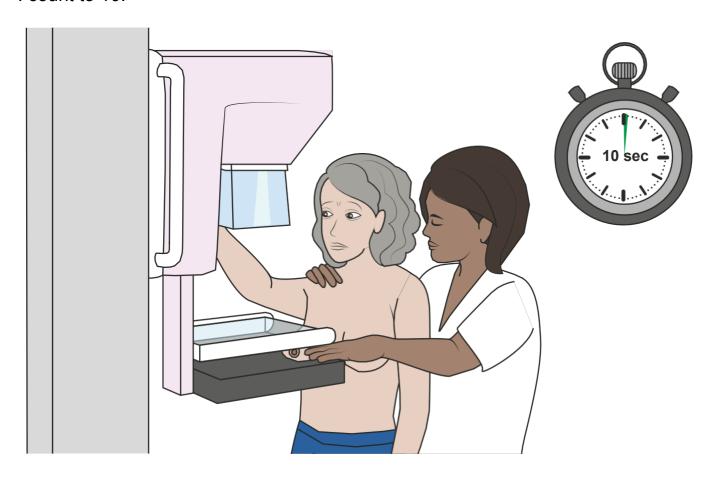


#### The radiographer places my breast on the plate on the machine.

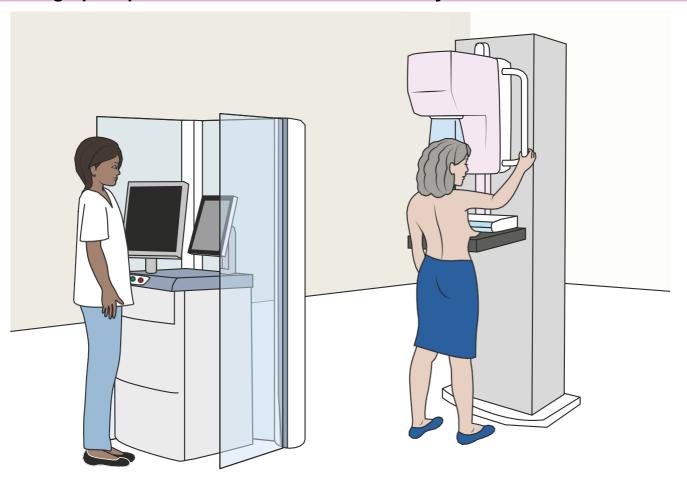


#### The radiographer presses my breast between the two plates.

It may be uncomfortable, but it is very quick. I count to 10.



#### The radiographer positions the tube to take the X-Ray.

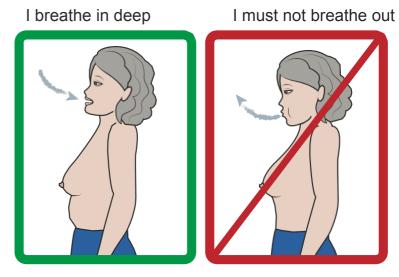


#### The radiographer asks me:

not to move.

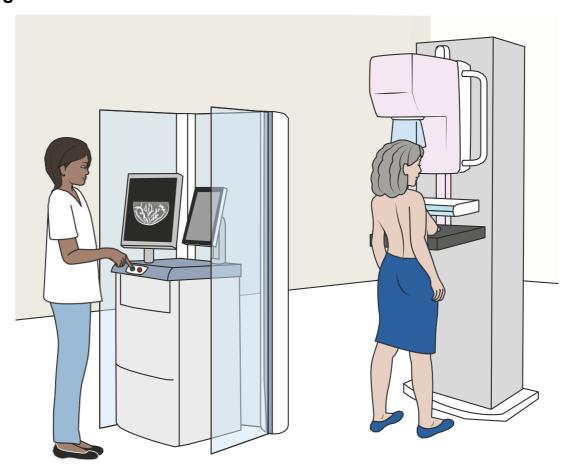


To hold my breath.

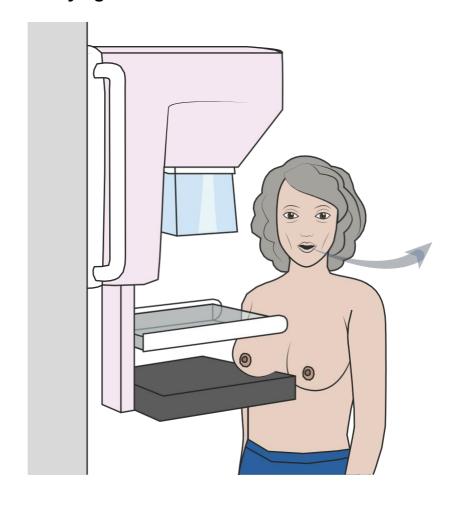


### The X-Ray is done. The plate is released.

I can let go of the bar.



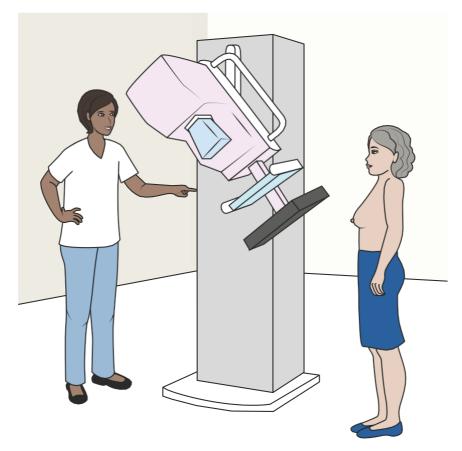
I can breathe normally again.



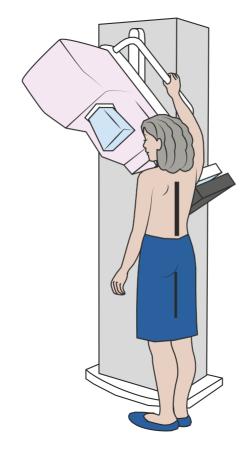
### The radiographer takes another X-Ray of my breast.

This second X-Ray is done exactly like the first one.

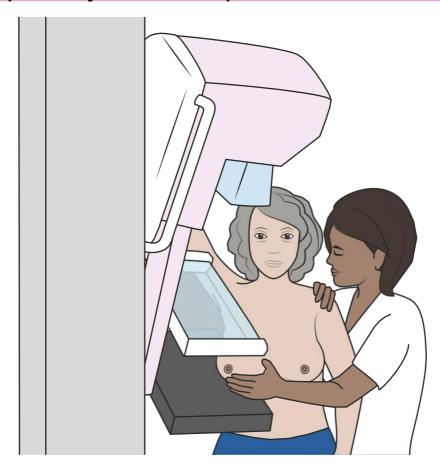
■ They move the machine: it is at an angle.



I stand to one side and hold the bar.

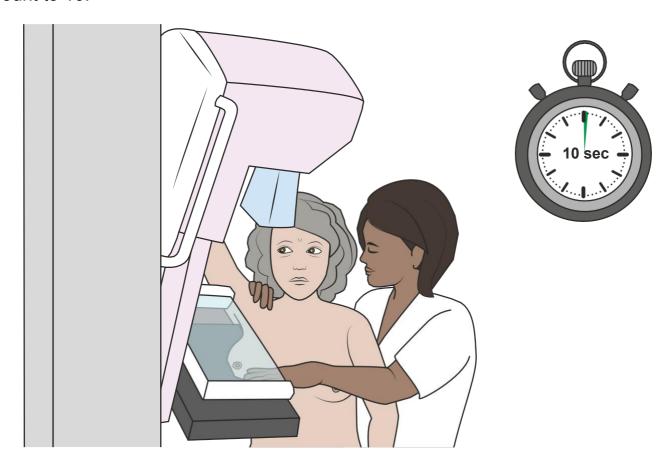


#### The radiographer places my breast on the plate on the machine.



#### The radiographer presses my breast between the two plates.

It may be uncomfortable, but it is very quick. I count to 10.



#### The radiographer positions the tube to take the X-Ray.

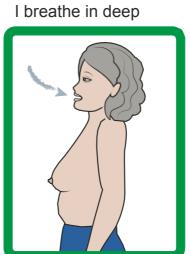


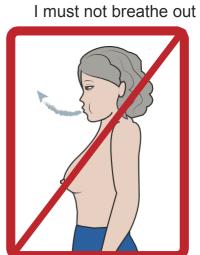
#### The radiographer asks me:

not to move.



To hold my breath.



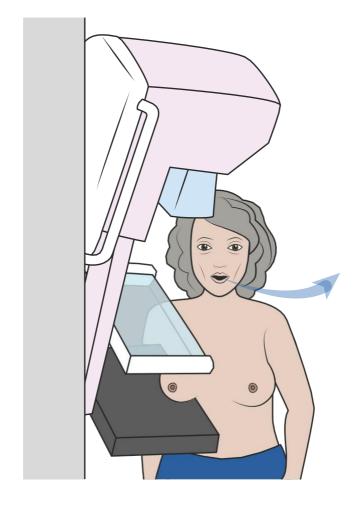


### The X-Ray is done. The plate is released.

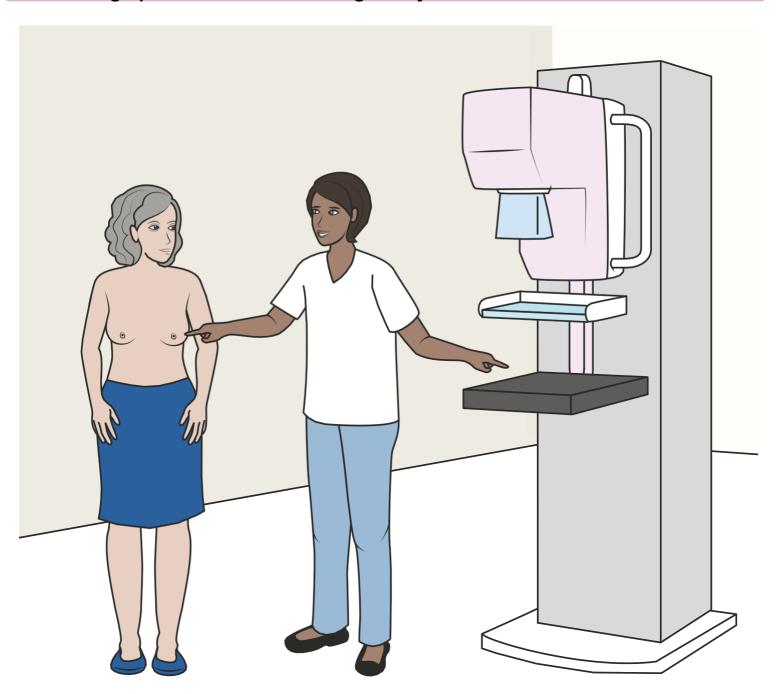
I can let go of the bar.



I can breathe normally again.



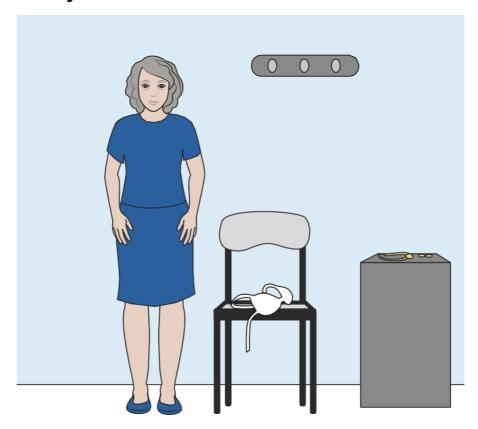
### The radiographer does the same thing for my other breast.



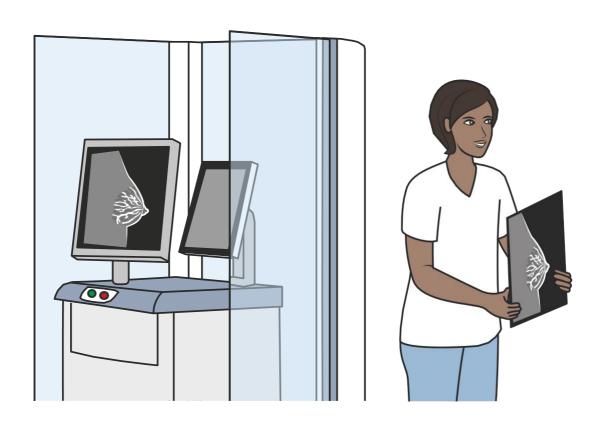
# After the mammogram

I can put on my top while I wait for the radiologist.

I don't put my bra on yet.



The radiographer prints the mammogram.



#### The radiographer comes to talk to me about what they can see on the X-Ray.

The radiologist is the doctor who analyses the mammogram.



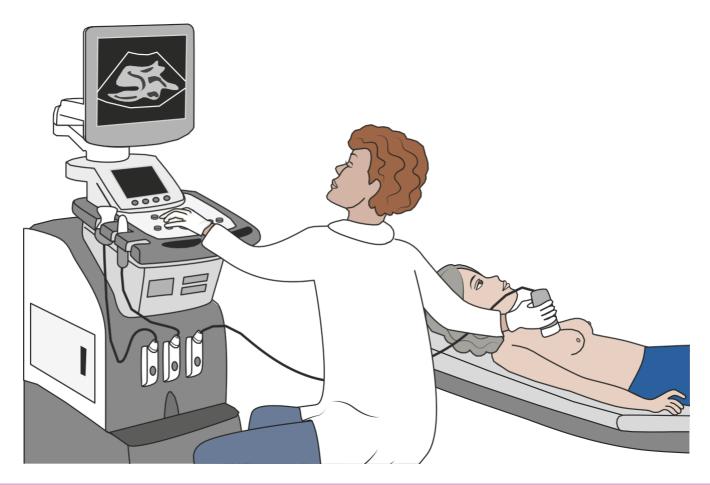
#### The radiologist may:

examine my breasts with their hands: this means touching my breasts.

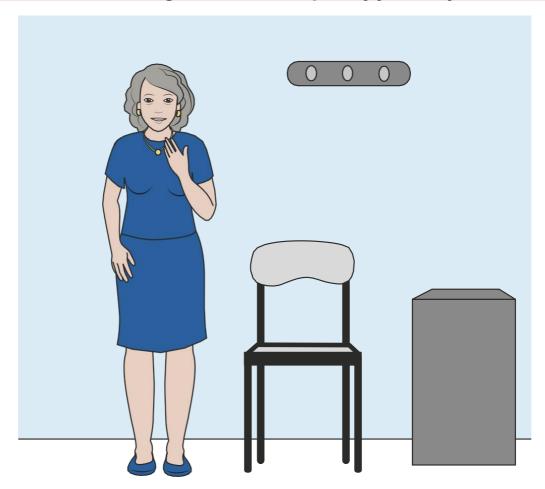


examine my breasts with a machine: this is an ultrasound scan.

The doctor sees the inside of my breasts on the screen.

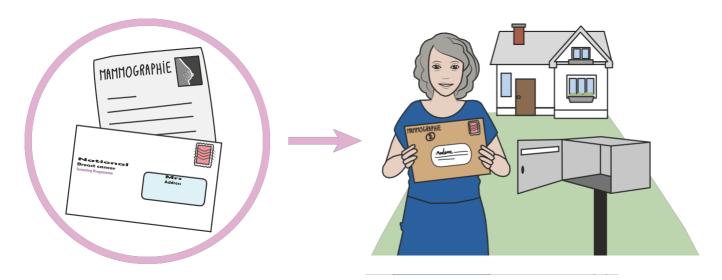


When it is all finished, I can get dressed and put my jewellery on.



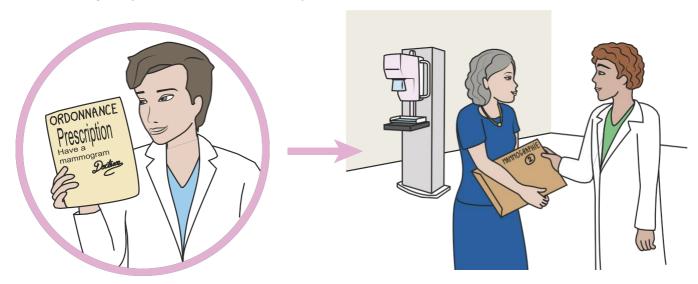
#### If I am over 50 years old and I received a letter:

I get my mammogram and my results later by post.



#### If I had a mammogram with a prescription:

I come back to get my results and a letter for my doctor.



- I go to see my doctor with my mammogram.
- He explains my results and answers my questions.
- I may recommend more tests.



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