

# Local docs at fore of women's health

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PHOENIXVILLE — The Phoenixville Hospital has expanded its health and wellness services available to women with the addition of a new digital mammography system from Hologic.

According to David Malamed, MD, radiologist & Director of Breast Imaging Services, Phoenixville Hospital, the new system will help with the early detection of breast cancer.



MALAMED

“Digital mammography allows us to provide our patients with the highest quality of care in the prevention and early detection of breast cancer,” said Malamed.

The digital mammography allows the University of Pennsylvania Radiologists at Phoenixville Hospital and Limerick to view the X-ray image more closely, said Malamed, by zeroing in on suspicious or concerning areas, enabling them to

make immediate decisions about additional images.

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death among women, exceeded only by lung cancer. Statistics demonstrate that one in eight women will develop breast cancer sometime in her life.

The stage at which breast cancer is detected influences a woman's survival. If detected early, the five-year survival rate is 97 percent.

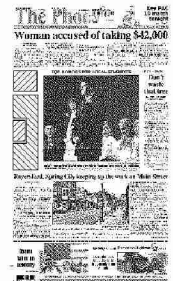
“From the patient's point of view, a digital mammogram feels identical to conventional screening, though women may notice shorter exam times and a reduction in call-backs to obtain additional images,” said Malamed. “Both conventional and digital screenings use X-ray to generate images of the breast. However, instead of using film to capture and record the image, a digital mammogram uses a special detector to capture and convert x-ray energy into a digital image.”

Malamed said that digital mammography offers a number of practical advantages and patient conveniences.

“Because there is no waiting for film to be developed, it can significantly reduce the time patients spend in the breast center,” he said. “Digital images are easily stored and transferred electronically, eliminating the dependency on one set of original films, which can be misfiled or lost in transit.”

Phoenixville Hospital provides a comprehensive scope of services ad-

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addressing the physical, emotional and educational needs of our patients.

Services include screening programs, diagnosis, intervention, treatment, and management of many different diseases of the breast.

Working closely with Phoenixville Hospital's doctors, nurses and technologists, Breast Care Liaison, Georgia Kontra helps coordinate many facets of the patients' care.

"Each patient at Phoenixville Hospital receives personalized care designed to meet her individual needs,"

said Kontra.

Darlene May, Administrative Director of Diagnostic Imaging at Phoenixville Hospital, added, "Demand for the digital mammography is high, and women are excited and pleased that we offer this advanced technology. Our staff is highly trained and the equipment is state-of-the art. We are committed to providing exceptional care to the women in our community."

To make an appointment for digital mammography, please contact Phoenixville Hospital at 610-983-1100.