

NOVA SCOTIA BREAST SCREENING PROGRAM

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS RECEIVING THE COVID-19 VACCINATION

Some patients who receive the COVID-19 vaccine will develop swollen lymph nodes under their arm on the same side as their vaccination injection. Vaccines of all types can result in temporary swelling of the lymph nodes, which is a sign that your body is making antibodies in response to the vaccine.

If swollen lymph nodes are seen on your mammogram, you may require additional imaging and/or clinical assessment by your health care provider.

We encourage you to attend your breast screening appointment, but you may choose to book or reschedule your appointment for 6 weeks after receiving the vaccination.

If you are **not** able to schedule an appointment for for 6 weeks after your COVID-19 vaccination or are more comfortable with **not** delaying your appointment, please attend your breast screening appointment.

This recommendation is for people who do not have any breast symptoms. If you are having any problems with your breasts, you should consult your health care provider.

To book or reschedule a mammogram appointment, please call the Nova Scotia Breast Screening Program at 902-473-3960 or 1-800-565-0548 (toll free).

Have you been recently vaccinated?

Please let the technologist know this information when you go for your mammogram:

Date of vaccination(s):

[] 1st dose: _____
[] 2nd dose: _____

Brand of vaccine administered:

[] Moderna
[] Pfizer-BioNTech
[] AstraZeneca/Covishield

Injection site:

[] left arm
[] right arm
[] thigh

Are you aware of any swollen lymph nodes?

[] yes
[] no

On your vaccination day:

If you have had a lumpectomy, lymph node dissection, have post treatment lymphedema, or a recent breast cancer diagnosis, **please request the vaccine be administered on the unaffected side.**

