



MAMMOGRAPHY PREPARATION

For the year of 2013, the Heart of Texas Healthcare System Mammography Department received a **perfect score** on the inspection for **Quality Standards depicted by Congress and the FDA.**

Since 2013 we have offered **Digital Mammography via a state of the art Hologic Selenia machine.** We require a written order from your physician before we can perform your mammogram.

Unlike any other parts of the body, the breast is composed mainly of soft tissue. When breast tissue is x-rayed, it creates an image that looks something like a smoky haze, making it difficult to see tiny “spots,” called microcalcifications, and other subtle signs of early cancer.

With digital mammography, the radiologist reviews electronic images of the breast, using special high-resolution monitors. The physician can adjust the brightness, change contrast, and zoom in for close ups of specific areas of interest. Being able to manipulate images is one of the main benefits of digital technology.

Another convenience of digital mammography over film-based systems is it can greatly reduce the need for retakes due to over exposure or under exposure. This potentially saves additional time and reduces your exposure to x-rays.

Because they are electronic, digital mammography images can be transmitted quickly across a network. Digital images can also be easily stored, copied without any loss of information, and transmitted and received in a more streamlined manner, eliminating dependence on only one set of “original” films.

PREPARATION FOR YOUR MAMMOGRAM:

Please refrain from wearing any lotion or deodorants when coming in for your mammogram.

For additional information, please contact our Mammography Department at 325-792-3535.