

# BreastScreen

## AUSTRALIA

A joint Australian, State and Territory Government Program

### **BreastScreen Australia National Policy**

#### ***Eligibility to access BreastScreen Australia Services***

BreastScreen Australia is jointly funded by the Commonwealth and state and territory governments.

Women aged 50-74 are invited to have free two-yearly mammograms. Women aged 40-49 and 75 and over are eligible to receive free mammograms but do not receive an invitation to attend.

Access to this free service may be limited to women who are eligible for Medicare as defined under the *Health Insurance Act 1973*. This is in accordance with current eligibility to access free public hospital treatment in Australia.

One way of determining proof of eligibility is by the client presenting a valid Medicare card, however local arrangements may also be considered in establishing eligibility for screening, particularly in remote areas.

More information on Medicare eligibility and the process for enrolment is provided on the [Department of Human Services website](#).

Visitors to Australia from countries that have Reciprocal Health Care Agreements are not eligible for free BreastScreen Australia services as these arrangements are limited to cover medically necessary care, i.e.: care for illness or injury that cannot wait until the visitor returns home.

*Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council's, Standing Committee on Screening endorsed this policy in October 2018.*