



Australian Government  

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Department of Health and Ageing

# Screening Monograph No.10/2009

## BreastScreen Australia Evaluation

## Governance & Management Project

January 2009

## **BreastScreen Australia Evaluation – Governance & Management Project – January 2009**

Prepared by The Nous Group for the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>ACT</b>	Australian Capital Territory
<b>DMAS</b>	Digital Mammography Accreditation Standards
<b>GP</b>	General Practitioner
<b>NAS</b>	National Accreditation Standards
<b>NSW</b>	New South Wales
<b>NT</b>	Northern Territory
<b>PHOFA</b>	Public Health Outcome Funding Agreement
<b>Qld</b>	Queensland
<b>SA</b>	South Australia
<b>SPP</b>	Specific Purpose Payment
<b>TAS</b>	Tasmania
<b>Vic</b>	Victoria
<b>WA</b>	Western Australia

# LIST OF AUSTRALIAN ORGANISATIONS AND COMMITTEES

<b>AHMAC</b>	Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council
<b>AIHW</b>	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
<b>APHDPC</b>	Australian Population Health Development Principal Committee, a sub-committee of AHMAC
<b>ASAC</b>	Australian Screening Advisory Committee, a sub-committee of APHDPC, superseded by the SSC
<b>BSA</b>	BreastScreen Australia
<b>DMASWG</b>	Digital Mammography Accreditation Standards Working Group, of the SSC
<b>DoHA</b>	Department of Health and Ageing
<b>HPACT</b>	Health Policy Advisory Committee on Technology, a subcommittee of MSAC
<b>MSAC</b>	Medical Services Advisory Committee, which reports to the Minister for Health and Aging
<b>NAC</b>	National Advisory Committee, a sub-committee of APHDPC superseded by ASAC
<b>NBOCC</b>	National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre
<b>NQMC</b>	National Quality Management Committee of BreastScreen Australia
<b>PRNTWG</b>	Policy Review and New Technologies Working Group, of ASAC
<b>QIWWG</b>	Quality Improvement Workforce Working Group, of ASAC
<b>SSC</b>	Screening Subcommittee, of the APHDPC

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

<b>Analogue mammography technology</b>	The analogue mammography system requires film processing to produce a hard copy x-ray film for the radiologist to assess.
<b>Assessment</b>	A follow up test for those people identified with a positive or abnormal screening test. The follow up test determines whether they have the disease or risk marker.
<b>Broad banded funding agreement</b>	Funding agreements where the recipient has flexibility to manage local needs and priorities within the total pool of funds allocated to them. The Public Health Outcomes Funding Agreement between the Commonwealth and each State and Territory Government is an example.
<b>Data dictionary</b>	A data dictionary describes the contents, organisation and conventions of a dataset or database enabling standard definitions of data, allowing easier consolidation of reports.
<b>Design levers</b>	Design levers are a construct used to explore the spectrum of options available. In this report, we use two levers – consistency and control.
<b>Digital mammography technology</b>	Digital Mammography, also known as full-field digital mammography, can be acquired by two different methods: computed radiography and direct digital radiography. X-rays are converted to digital images which can be viewed on a computer screen. These images can be stored electronically and manipulated.
<b>Functions</b>	Public programs have a set of generic functions that are necessary to deliver on the expectations of citizens, communities and governments. These functions are: Setting goals and objectives, policy formation and maintenance, strategic planning, community education and information, information and knowledge sharing, workforce planning, data and information management, quality and clinical risk management, emerging issues management and research.
<b>Generalised indexation arrangement</b>	Provisions built into funding agreements tied to the indexation of policy instruments such as consumer prices, exchange rates, interest rates, wage cost or income tax brackets.
<b>Governance and management machinery</b>	The structures and processes that interact to produce the governance and management aspects of the BreastScreen Australia Program.
<b>Industry body</b>	An association established for the purposes of promoting the interests of members.

**Interoperable health information systems** Interoperable information systems communicate with each other on an ongoing basis, despite different purposes, structures, and underlying technologies. Interoperability in health information systems will make possible health information exchange, with appropriate safeguards, which ultimately will improve the quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of the health service.

**Jurisdiction** Collective term used in this report to refer to all the States and Territories of Australia.

**Legacy system** A legacy system is an old computer system that requires replacement or redesign as it is no longer fit for purpose or easily supported.

**Medical and professional colleges** Medical and professional colleges in this report includes:

- The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists
- Australian Institute of Radiology
- Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
- Royal College of Pathologists of Australia

**Mortality** A death where the underlying cause is indicated as cancer. People with cancer who died of other causes are not counted in the death statistics in this publication.

**National** The word **national** is widely used throughout this report. It is used in several contexts. Important contexts include:

- The word is used to refer to the formal decision making and management structures that cross jurisdictional boundaries within the BreastScreen Australia Program
- In other contexts relating to breast screening in Australia (e.g. options for future governance arrangements) the use of the word is intended to signify that all Australian Governments are involved or are parties to the issue and is not a reference to the Australian Government or its departments.

**Opportunity cost** Is the value of what ever activity a women forewent to attend a BreastScreen Australia appointment.

**Polity** The political organisation of society.

**Population-based screening programs** Screening is offered systematically to all individuals in the defined target group within a framework of agreed policy, protocols, quality management, monitoring and evaluation by applying a screening test for a disease or risk marker which is considered important and will produce a net benefit that is cost effective and that the community considers acceptable. A screening program begins with identification and invitation of the target population and has a defined end point usually at definitive diagnosis and referral.

<b>Program</b>	Where the word <b>program</b> is capitalised as 'Program' it refers specifically to the BreastScreen Australia Program, as an entity or to an attribute of that entity.
<b>Program delivery model</b>	The program delivery model refers to the components of the screening process including invitation, screening and assessment. It involves all the steps that are required to complete the screening process.
<b>Program logic map</b>	A logic map or logic model is a visual representation of the relationship between the various components of a program of work.
<b>Screening</b>	The presumptive identification of unrecognised disease or defects by means of tests, examinations, or other procedures (modified from WHO, 1968).
<b>Screening Pathway</b>	The screening pathway includes all activities from identification of the target population to diagnosis. It includes invitation, having the test, receiving test results, assessment and diagnosis, as well as monitoring, evaluation and quality improvement activities across the pathway.
<b>Statutory body</b>	A statutory body is an organisation that is established by legislation.
<b>Target population</b>	The population group that is identified to participate in the screening program.
<b>Treatment pathway</b>	The treatment pathway is the description of the steps and processes that women assessed as potentially requiring treatment as a result of mammographic screening go through to complete treatment.

