

## POSITION SUMMARY

# Oncology Nursing Society Position on Breast Cancer Screening

Breast cancer is a significant public health problem. Breast cancer treatment usually is better tolerated when the disease is detected early. Currently, the three primary tools used for the early detection of breast cancer are breast self-examination (BSE), clinical breast examination (CBE) by a healthcare provider, and mammography.

It is the position of the Oncology Nursing Society that women have access to comprehensive breast cancer screening.

This includes

- Discussion of benefits, risks, and potential limitations of BSE, CBE, and mammography with each woman according to her individual breast cancer risk assessment
- Performance of CBE by a healthcare provider for all female patients starting at age 20 and mammography at age 40
- Continued education for oncology nurses to enhance their knowledge of early breast cancer detection tools.

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