

## Note on Mammography and Digital Breast Tomo Synthesis

Majundar Kususe\*

Specialize in diagnosing and treating injuries and diseases using medical imaging, Nigeria

### Abstract

Breast imaging is a sub-speciality of diagnostic radiology that involves imaging of the breasts for screening or diagnostic purposes. There are various methods of breast imaging using a variety of technologies as described in detail below. Traditional screening and diagnostic mammography uses X-ray technology. Breast tom synthesis is a new digital mammography technique that produces 3D images of the breast using X-rays, Xeromammography and Galactography also use X-ray technology and are also used infrequently in the detection of breast cancer. Breast ultrasound is another technology employed in diagnosis & screening and specifically can help differentiate between fluid filled and solid lumps that can help determine if cancerous, Breast MRI is, yet, another technology reserved for high-risk patients and can help determine the extent of cancer if diagnosed, Lastly, scintimammography is used in a subgroup of patients who have abnormal mammograms or whose screening is not reliable on the basis of using traditional mammography or ultrasound.

### Mammography

Overall has a false-positive rate of approximately 10%. It has a false-negative (missed cancer) rate of between 7 and 12 percent. This is partly due to dense tissues obscuring the cancer and the fact that the appearance of cancer on mammograms has a large overlap with the appearance of normal tissues. Additionally, mammogram should not be done with any increased frequency in people undergoing breast surgery, including breast enlargement, mastopexy, and breast reduction.

### Digital Breast Tomosynthesis (DBT)

Digital breast tomo synthesis (DBT) can provide a higher diagnostic accuracy compared to conventional mammography. The key to

understanding DBT is analogous to understanding the difference between an X-ray and CT. specifically; one is three dimensional whereas the other is flat. A mammogram usually takes two X-rays of each breast from different angles whereas digital tomosynthesis creates a 3-dimensional picture of the breast using X-rays

### Biography

Majundar kususe, Specialize in diagnosing and treating injuries and diseases using medical imaging (radiology), board certified specialist in Internal Medicine. He received his M.D. and specialist in radiology, Nigeria.

**\*Corresponding author:** Majundar Kususe, Specialize in diagnosing and treating injuries and diseases using medical imaging (radiology), board certified specialist in Internal Medicine, Nigeria, E-mail: majumdar@mcmaster.ca

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