

What Is Thermography?

Put simply, thermography, or digital infrared imaging, DII, uses a highly specialized infrared camera that can read the heat coming from the surface of the skin. Differences in heat picked up from the breast may be associated with breast disease.

The use of DII is based on the principle that metabolic activity in pre-cancerous tissue is higher than that in normal breast tissue. This heat is then measured and analyzed in comparison with known normal areas of heat with the opposite breast.

The computer analysis of these heat patterns can lead to a clinical impression which indicates the presence of breast abnormality, often 8-10 years before a mammogram can currently detect a mass.

How Breast Thermograms Work

With a high degree of sensitivity and accuracy, breast thermography measures differences in heat emission between normal breast tissue and breast cancers. Breast thermography is the only non-invasive measurement of the physiology of breast tissue. While breast cancer can only be diagnosed by tissue biopsy, breast thermography safely eliminates the need for most unnecessary biopsies as well as their associated high cost and emotional suffering.

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Important Highlights from Breast Thermography Studies

Advances in infrared technology combined with data on 300,000 women with thermograms document that breast thermography is highly sensitive and accurate. This means that more than 95 percent of breast cancers can be identified, with 90 percent accuracy. Women under the age of 50 have the most devastating loss of life from breast cancer. Mammography, MRIs and PET scans cannot come close to matching the combined sensitivity and accuracy of breast thermography.

Breast thermography involves no radiation exposure or breast compression. It is easy to do, done in a private setting, and affordable.

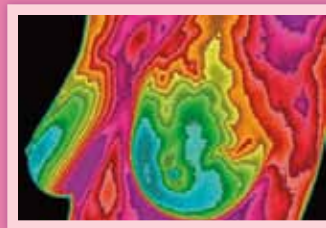
The FDA approved breast thermography for breast cancer risk assessment in 1982.



My Breast Imaging

Dr. Bill Sheppard

has now partnered with Trip Chaudhury
Board certified oncologist with Lone Star
Oncology. Dr. Chaudhury is the head of a
panel of oncologists dedicated to helping
woman with positive thermography results seek
further medical advice.



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What Makes Thermography So Unique

Unlike mammography and other imaging, thermography does not require radiation, compression, contact, or intravenous injection making it a very comfortable procedure which poses absolutely NO health risks to the patient.

By detecting minute variations in normal blood vessel activity, thermography can frequently suggest a pre-cancerous state of the breast or the presence an early tumor that is not yet large enough to be detected by physical examination, mammography, or other types of imaging.

Advantages Of Thermography

No Radiation: Thermography does not apply radiation in its analysis of breast tissue. In fact, nothing is sent into or through the patient. The procedure is completely safe, and non invasive.

No Compression: There is no contact with the patient's breasts. The camera reads the heat at a distance from the breasts and thus, no compression is needed.



How Are Thermograms Different Than Mammograms?

Mammograms look at anatomical changes in the breast by detecting masses or lumps in the breast tissue. Thermograms look at vascular changes in the breast, as they detect blood flow patterns, inflammation and asymmetries. Thermograms benefit all women. They may be particularly useful for young women who want to monitor their breast health before the recommended age of 40. Your breast cancer prevention should start as early as possible.

The most devastating loss of life from breast cancer impacts women between the ages of 30 and 50. For women between the ages of 40 and 44, breast cancer is the leading cause of death, according to the American Cancer Society. Yet the November 10, 2003 issue of the AMA journal, American Medical News, reports little evidence documenting that mammography saves lives from breast cancer for premenopausal women, which are many of the women who fall into these age ranges.

Mybreastimaging.com is Katy's exclusive site offering women the opportunity to detect cancer at it's earliest stages. With early detection, cure rates of greater than 95% are possible.

- The female breast is much more sensitive to radiation than any other organ. Since mammography screening was introduced, there has been a significant rise in the incidence of a form of breast cancer called "ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS)." In fact, this form of breast cancer has increased by 328%.
- In some cases, such as inflammatory breast cancer, there are no lumps to be detected by self-exam or mammogram. Thermography can detect inflammatory breast cancer
- A tumor must be the size of a small grape to be detected by mammography, which can take anywhere from 7 - 10 years.
- At \$250 it is a fraction of the cost of other imaging
- If treated in the earliest stages, cure rates greater than 95% are possible
- 1 in 8 women will develop breast cancer and every woman is at risk for developing breast cancer. 75% of women who get breast cancer have no family history of the disease. With a sensitivity of 90%, thermography is suggested over mammography and ultrasound for early detection of breast cancer. Prevention Starts with detecting breast disease before it develops.
- Difficulties in reading mammograms can occur in women who are on hormone replacement, nursing or have fibrocystic, large, dense, or enhanced breasts. These types of breast differences do not cause difficulties in reading digital infrared scans.
- It takes 8-10 years for the average breast cancer tumor to grow to the size of a dime. Breast thermography may be the first signal that such a possibility is developing.
- FDA approved in 1982.

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