

Tomosynthesis reduces mammo screening recall rate by 30%
By [Kate Madden Yee, AuntMinnie.com staff writer](#)

July 30, 2013 -- When added to mammography, digital breast tomosynthesis (DBT) reduces overall recall rates in breast cancer screening by 30%, with even greater reductions for women younger than 50 and those with dense breasts, according to a new study published online in *Radiology*.

Researchers from Yale University School of Medicine compared screening recall rates and cancer detection rates in two groups of women: those who received conventional digital mammography alone and those who had tomosynthesis in addition to mammography (*Radiology*, July 30, 2013).

"Although all breast density and age subgroups benefited from the addition of tomosynthesis to conventional digital mammography, the patients receiving the greatest benefit were women with dense breasts and those younger than 50 years," wrote Dr. Brian Haas, Dr. Liane Philpotts, and colleagues.

The study included 13,158 patients who underwent screening mammography, and 6,100 received tomosynthesis. The addition of tomosynthesis resulted in a 30% reduction in the overall recall rate, from 12% for mammography alone to 8.4% in the tomosynthesis group.

Recall rates were reduced even further for women with dense breast tissue and for women younger than 50, Haas and colleagues found.