



Response to USPSTF Mammography Recommendations

The United States Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF) recently released recommendations regarding breast cancer screening that have caused significant confusion and undue alarm for the public.

Reston Radiology Consultants does not agree with the USPSTF recommendations. We like most health care professionals involved with clinical mammography agree with current American Cancer Society recommendations for women to obtain annual screening mammography beginning at age 40.

The response from the medical community, cancer prevention and therapy organizations as well as other arms of the government has been rather unanimous in questioning the validity and motivation of the USPSTF recommendation. Even the head of the USPSTF issued what can be termed a retraction televised on the McNeil News Hour soon afterward. The USPSTF notwithstanding, current mammography screening guidelines are based on decades of medical and scientific research and review.

Additional information can be obtained from the following links:

[American College of Radiology Statement](#)

[American Cancer Society Statement](#)

[Susan G. Komen Foundation Statement](#)

Department of Health & Human Services Response:

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/11/20091118a.html>

McNeil News Hour Interview:

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/health/july-dec09/mammograms_11-17.html