BreastScreen AUSTRALIA
A joint Australian, State and Territory Government Program

BreastScreen Australia Clinical Advisory Group (CAG)

Notification of breast implant issues in the BreastScreen Australia program

Version	Date of completed advice: 12 August 2026 Review due: 2031 Version number: 2 (March 2025)
Advice requested by	BreastScreen Australia Program Management Group
Category	**Best practice guidance** - Clinical advice that has rigorous evidence and should be encouraged as the care standard nationwide, however, is not mandated. For example, there may be jurisdictional constraints of an operational, budget or service delivery kind. Best practice guidance would not be included in the BSA National Accreditation Standards (NAS), although over time there might be opportunity for it to become national policy.
Recommendation	To support the current national policy statement that identifying and reporting breast implant issues is not the role of BreastScreen Australia services.
Discussion	This advice relates to detecting issues, abnormalities or complications involving breast implants on screening mammography, such as implant rupture or leakage. Under the existing national policy, BreastScreen Australia Services are not required to identify or notify clients of breast implant problems observed on screening mammograms. BreastScreen Australia is designed to identify breast malignancies. BreastScreen Australia Services should recall to assessment the presence of a mammographically-apparent seroma in proximity to a breast implant as this may indicate a breast implant-associated anaplastic lymphoma. A benign finding such as evidence of implant rupture or leakage with no evidence of pathology does not require recall to assessment. As per local policies and procedures, BreastScreen Australia Services should inform participants, as part of the participant intake process and prior to their screening appointment, that the condition of their breast implants **is not clinically examined**, and issues such as rupture or leakage **may not be reported** through BreastScreen

	Australia screening mammography. The BreastScreen Australia Clinical Advisory Group recommends that jurisdictions include the below statement in their participant information and consent forms: • I understand that the purpose of a BreastScreen mammogram is to detect breast cancer, and that BreastScreen Australia will not assess my breast implants. Any incidental findings may not be reported. Examples of implant issues include rupture or leakage. • I understand that if I have concerns about my breast implants, BreastScreen Australia recommends I discuss these with my doctor. GPs should refer to Australia's Breast Implant Risk Management Framework and the Recommended management of a patient with a breast implant for further guidance on breast implant management.
Stakeholder consultation	The BreastScreen Australia CAG is grateful to the Program Management Group who provided input.
References	**1.** Therapeutic Goods Administration, *Australia's Breast Implant Risk Management Framework May 2024*- https://www.tga.gov.au/resources/publication/corporate-reports/australias-breast-implant-risk-management-framework - Accessed 12/02/2026 **2.** NSW Government, *'Recommended management of a patient with a breast implant' January 2020,* https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/implants/Pages/management-breast-implants.aspx - Accessed 12/02/2026