

Temiskaming Hospital

October 15, 2008

Breast Screening Could Save Your Life

Did You Know?

- In Ontario, it is recommended that women 50 and over have screening mammography, generally every two years.
- Breast cancer is the most common cancer in Ontario women. It is expected in 2008 that 8,500 Ontario women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 2,000 will die from it.
- In Timiskaming, in 2006/2007, of the 4,615 women aged 50-69, only 2,802 or 60.7% participated in screening mammography.
- Having a family history of breast cancer is a risk factor, but only 11% of women who get breast cancer have a strong family history of the disease.

A mammogram is not a perfect test. It misses some cancers. As well, not all cancers found at screening can be cured. Breast screening may not benefit women with aggressive cancers. However, many studies show that regular mammograms for women aged 50-69 reduce deaths from breast cancer by up to a third.

So How Do You Make an Appointment?

You don't have to wait for your doctor to suggest breast screening. Raise the topic yourself or if you are 50 or over, you can make an appointment yourself without a doctor's referral. Just call (705) 647-8121 and ask to be referred to the Ontario Breast Screening Program. This service is free for women.

**Take a few minutes for breast screening.
Early detection could save your life!**



Temiskaming Hospital
(705) 647-8121
www.temihosp.on.ca

Visiting Hours:

- 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for medical patients, surgical patients and Long-Term Care patients;
- 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for obstetrics patients;
- Visitors to the Special Care Unit (SCU) are restricted to immediate family and/or significant other(s).

The information contained in this article was provided by Cancer Care Ontario - www.cancercare.on.ca.