RADIOLOGY ASSOCIATES TALLAHASSEE

Breast Ordering Guidelines

Based on American College of Radiology (ACR) Guidelines

Reason for Exam	Patient Age	Order/Recommendation
Patient has new breast symptom(s) (e.g., lump, nipple discharge, skin changes, focal pain)	29 years and younger	Breast Ultrasound Limited + Diagnostic Mammogram
	30 years and older	Diagnostic Mammogram + Breast Ultrasound Limited
Patient is higher risk but has NO symptoms (genetic mutation, elevated lifetime risk, or significant first-degree family history)	Under 25	No breast imaging is recommended
	25-29	Annual Breast MRI
	30-39	Annual Breast MRI; consider annual screening mammography
	40 and older	Annual Screening Mammogram (and any recommended follow-up imaging) before Breast MRI
Patient is average risk with NO symptoms	35-39	May have a baseline Screening Mammogram. Breast MRI is not recommended.
	40 and older	Annual Screening Mammogram (and any recommended follow-up imaging). Breast MRI may be ordered if patient has dense breasts.
Patient has bilateral mastectomy with NO new symptoms	Any age	No routine breast imaging recommended
Patient has bilateral mastectomy + new breast/chest lump	Any age	Breast Ultrasound Limited + Diagnostic Mammogram
Patient has new axillary lump	Any age	Axillary Ultrasound – specify side
Male patient with new breast symptom(s)	Any age	Breast Ultrasound Limited + Diagnostic Mammogram

Important Reminders

- Please include the specific area of concern, side, location, and relevant clinical history on orders.
- No breast imaging is recommended by the ACR for cyclical, non-focal breast pain without other suspicious clinical findings. Continue to order routine annual screening mammography as age appropriate.
- Dense Breasts: Complete Breast Ultrasound may be performed as supplemental imaging with mammography **only** when Breast MRI is contraindicated or denied by insurance.
- Asymptomatic patients with a history of breast cancer that have not had a mastectomy, **should** return to Screening Mammography beginning the 3rd year after cancer diagnosis.