

Reference Number: [redacted]

NHS Number: [redacted]

Breast Screening Programme

WEST OF LONDON BREAST SCREENING SERVICE

Charing Cross Hospital
Fulham Palace Road
London
W6 8RF

For appointments: 020 3313 6644

Fax: 020 3311 1617

Web: www.westlondonbreastscreening.nhs.uk

09-Jun-2014

Dear [redacted]

Further to our recent communication with you, I am pleased to confirm that an appointment has been booked for you

on [redacted] /th July 2014

at [redacted]

Your local breast screening unit is situated at

BREAST SCREENING UNIT
THIRD FLOOR, QEOM WING
ST MARYS HOSPITAL
SOUTH WHARF ROAD
W2 1NY

If this appointment is inconvenient please do not hesitate to contact us to rearrange it.

Yours sincerely,

Dr NK Barrett
Director of Breast Screening
West of London Breast Screening Service.

① You are sent
an appointment:
this must be important

West of London Breast Screening Service

Don't forget your appointment

We are now able to send a text reminder before your appointment. You can give us your mobile number by:

- completing the online form at **www.westlondonbreastscreening.nhs.uk**
- phoning **020 3311 1288** and leaving your details on the voicemail service.

If we have screened you in the past, we may already have a mobile number for you. Please let us know if your number has changed or if you do not want to receive a reminder.

On the day of your appointment, please remember to:

- complete and bring along the questionnaire sent with your appointment letter
- wear something that allows you to undress from the waist up
- bring a cardigan or shawl to put over your shoulders
- avoid using spray deodorant or applying talcum powder, body lotion or oil around the breast and armpit areas.

If you can't speak English, please come with someone who can and bring some form of ID.

Remember.....

Breast screening saves lives

2

This must be VERY important



NHS breast screening Helping you decide



③ The "new improved leaflet"
NO information on absolute benefits & risks
(ie MASTECTOMY)
which increases

This leaflet was developed by Informed Choice about Cancer Screening - an independent team of information experts at King's Health Partners, with advice and writing support from Cancer Research UK.

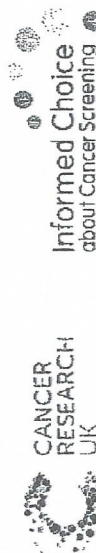
Through a public consultation, over 1000 members of the public contributed to developing the approach to information about the NHS Cancer Screening Programmes.

The following organisations supported the consultation. Beating Bowel Cancer, BME Cancer Communities, Bowel Cancer UK, Breakthrough Breast Cancer, Breast Cancer Campaign, Breast Cancer Care, Cancer Research UK, Independent Cancer Patients' Voice, Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust and the Patient Information Forum.

The information in this leaflet used recommendations from a citizens' jury of 25 women about how to present the possible benefits and risks of breast screening.

www.informedchoiceaboutcancerscreening.org

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NHS Breast Screening Programme Extending the screening age range

Cancer Screening Programmes

No hint of uncertainty
or research

Why have I been sent this leaflet?

You have been sent this leaflet along with your invitation for screening because you live in an area where we are starting to extend the age range for women invited for breast screening.

Why is the breast screening age range changing?

At the moment, all women between the ages of 50 and 70 are invited for screening every 3 years. Women over the age of 70 can request screening every three years by making an appointment at their local screening unit, but they do not receive invitations.

In December 2007, the Department of Health's *Cancer Reform Strategy* announced that from 2012 the NHS Breast Screening Programme would be extended to cover women between the ages of 47 and 73. This means that all women will get two extra screening invitations in their lifetime. It also means that all women will get their first screening invitation before their 50th birthday.

How will this age extension happen?

The age extension will be gradually phased in across England. Initially, we will invite just some of the women from the new age groups. Eventually, all women in the new age groups will be included.

How does the age extension work?

All women aged 50-70 continue to get their screening invitations as normal.

The female population that falls within the new screening age groups of 47-49 and 71-73 has been randomised which means that initially the age extension only affects half of the women in these age groups.

Randomising the phasing in of the age extension means that the net benefit of extending the age range for breast screening can be scientifically evaluated. Researchers at Oxford University will be analysing the results on behalf of the NHS Breast Screening Programme. *

What about women aged 47-49 or 71-73 who haven't been invited yet – can they be screened anyway?

Any woman aged over 70 can request screening every three years, as now. They simply contact their local screening unit to make an appointment.

Women aged 47-49 who have not been invited yet can still ask to be screened if they live in an area that has started the age extension.

Women aged 47-49 in areas that have not yet started the age extension, cannot request screening. Once age extension starts in their area, they will either be invited, or can request screening.

Where can I find out more about breast screening, and the age extension?

You can find more information about breast screening, and the age extension in breast screening, on the NHS Cancer Screening Programmes website at www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk.

Summary

You have been sent this leaflet because you live in an area where the age extension to the NHS Breast Screening Programme is being introduced.

- Aged 47-49? You have been randomly selected to be invited for screening.
- Aged 50-70? You are being invited for screening as normal.
- Aged 71-73? You have been randomly selected to be invited for screening.

Please also read the enclosed leaflet on breast screening, to help you decide whether or not to come for your appointment.

A large print version of this leaflet and versions in languages other than English are available from the NHS Cancer Screening Programmes website at www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk

Ethical approval for the study has been obtained from the Ealing & West London Research Ethics Committee 10/H0710/9 V1.2 May 2010