

## **ABOUT DIGITAL MAMMOGRAPHY**

Digital mammograms are specialized X-ray examination of the breast. Two types of mammogram studies are commonly performed. A screening mammogram is performed on women who have no current symptoms or breast problems while a diagnostic mammogram is performed specifically to evaluate a breast problem or revisit a previous abnormal finding. The Mobile Mammography program provides screening mammograms ONLY. If a woman is in need of a diagnostic mammogram, we will help her obtain one at Hartford Hospital.

## **WOMEN WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A SCREENING MAMMOGRAM**

- Women age 35 or older who have not had a mammogram in the past 12 months

## **WOMEN WHO ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A SCREENING MAMMOGRAM**

- Women of any age who have breast problems such as suspicious lumps, abnormal swelling, bleeding from the nipples, or unusual tenderness. These women should be referred to a physician immediately to have the problem evaluated
- Women with a history of breast cancer in the past three years
- Women who have any type of breast biopsy or breast surgery since their last mammogram
- Women who have had a screening mammogram within the last 12 months
- Women who are pregnant or think they may be pregnant

## **PREPARING FOR YOUR MAMMOGRAM**

Please do NOT apply underarm deodorant, powders, ointments or creams to your chest area the day of your scheduled exam. These products can show up on the images.

A two-piece outfit is preferable since you only need to undress from the waist up. Please remove all jewelry and other items to avoid possible interference from metal fasteners in clothing.

If there are prior mammograms, it is essential to have films from the last mammogram for comparison. If the films are not available, a base line mammogram will be performed. You will be asked to sign a form granting us permission to obtain you prior mammograms for comparison review.