

	Policy #: 16. 13
SUBJECT: Exam Preparation	Effective: Dec 2006 Reviewed: February 2019
APPROVED BY: Director of Radiology	Page 1 of 2

Exam Preparation

Purpose: In order to obtain the highest quality exam possible, the technologists will adhere to the following procedures before performing a mammogram.

Procedure:

A. Pre-Exam

1. Review clinical history and most recent films and reports before bringing the patient into the room to establish why the mammogram is being performed.
2. Check films for areas that may be of particular interest to assure that they are well demonstrated on the current images. Take note of structure and density of the breast to ensure that optimal technical factors are used.

B. Patient Preparation

1. Try to make the patient feel as comfortable as possible.
2. Allow patients to have privacy in the changing area and while filling out the history sheet.
3. Review the clinical history with the patient to ensure that all pertinent information is obtained.
4. Explain the purpose of compression. Keep in mind the fact that compression should not be painful; in most cases it is possible to obtain an appropriate degree of compression without causing pain or unnecessary discomfort.
5. Assure patients that they are in control and that you will ask about the compression during the exam and will stop the compression if they are unable to tolerate it.
6. Ask patients if they have questions or concerns that you can address before starting the exam.
7. It is not necessary to completely remove the gown. Allow patients the option of keeping one half of their body covered at all times.

	Policy #: 16. 13
SUBJECT: Exam Preparation	Effective: Dec 2006 Reviewed: February 2019
APPROVED BY: Director of Radiology	Page 2 of 2