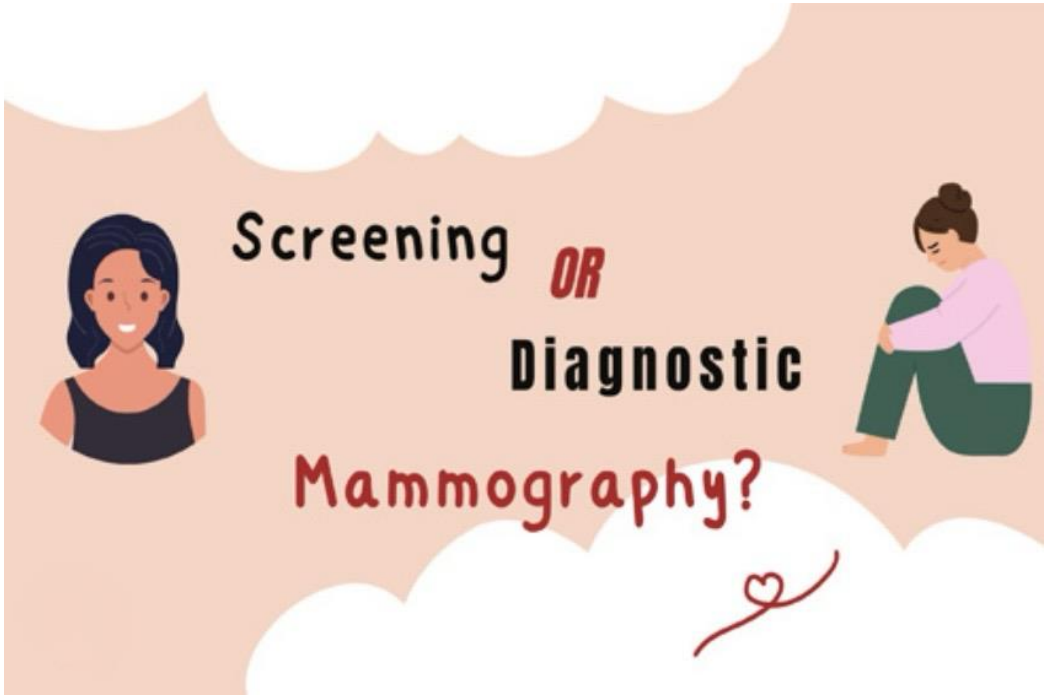
MRAD 302 Specialized Imaging 2 Reflection #2
Topic: Mammography – Screening and Diagnostic



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1. What is screening mammography? Provide examples of the projections performed in a screening mammo procedure.

Screening mammography is a routine breast imaging examination performed on women who do not have any signs or symptoms of breast disease. Its main purpose is to detect breast cancer at an early stage, often before it can be felt as a lump. Early detection can improve treatment options and increase the chances of successful outcomes. A standard screening mammogram includes four images: the Craniocaudal (CC) view and the Mediolateral Oblique (MLO) view of each breast. These projections allow the technologist and radiologist to evaluate most of the breast tissue for any abnormalities.

2. What is diagnostic mammography? Provide examples of the projections performed in a diagnostic mammo procedure.

Diagnostic mammography is performed when a patient has symptoms such as a breast lump, pain, nipple discharge, or when an abnormality is found during a screening mammogram. Unlike screening mammography, diagnostic mammography focuses on a specific area of concern and may require additional projections. These may include spot compression views, magnification views, true lateral (ML or LM) views, exaggerated craniocaudal lateral (XCCL) views, or cleavage views, depending on the clinical situation. Learning about the differences between screening and diagnostic mammography has helped me understand the important role medical imaging technologists play in early detection and patient care. It also reminded me that clear communication, proper positioning, and compassionate care are essential for producing high-quality images while helping patients feel comfortable and supported throughout the examination.


ThankYou