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Re-issuing the Screening Mammography Challenge

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Re-issuing the Screening Mammography Challenge

DANIEL PASSERMAN, D.O., Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital

I was glad to read your editorial, "Screening mammography requires informed consent"¹ because it draws attention to an important, if controversial, research paper. One of my colleagues challenged me to count the number of days from publication of the Canadian National Breast Screening Study² until the first time I heard the results discussed in a clinical setting. I laughed at his naïveté. "Don't be stupid—it's more like count the years." On May 19, 2015—more than a year after my colleague challenged me—I first heard a colleague question the wisdom of doing routine screening mammography. I know from my own practice that guidelines are flawed, and I owe it to my patients to share research evidence in the exam room. In the reflection section of the first issue, Stephen Simmer wrote eloquently about the ongoing responsibilities of competent doctors. I wholeheartedly agree with Stephen, and encourage medical learners of all ages to do the same. I want to reissue the challenge to each of your readers to monitor the discussion related to screening mammography in their own clinical settings.

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1. Meza, JP. (2015) "Screening Mammography Requires Informed Consent," Clinical Research in Practice: The Journal of Team Hippocrates: 1(1):eP1027. Available at: <http://digitalcommons.wayne.edu/crp/vol1/iss1/9>
2. Miller AB, Wall C, Baines CJ, et al. Twenty five year follow - up for breast cancer incidence and mortality of the Canadian National Breast Screening Study: randomized screening trial. BMJ. 2014;348:g366. doi:[10.1136/bmj.g366](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.g366)

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