|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Greater Manchester Breast Screening  The Nightingale Centre  Wythenshawe Hospital  Southmoor Road  Wythenshawe  Manchester  M23 9LT  Tel: 0161 291 4444  breast-screening.uhsm.nhs.uk |

**NHS BREAST SCREENING PROGRAMME**

**Dear GP/Practice,**

My role is Cancer Screening Improvement Lead for the Manchester Breast Screening programme, and I work with GP practices to increase awareness and uptake of breast screening across Greater Manchester. Your practice is now due for Breast Screening. We will be inviting ladies from your practice between the ages of 50 and 71 starting from…….. We are contacting you now to ensure you have all the information you need to encourage as many women as possible to attend.

Breast Screening aims to find cancer at an early stage before any symptoms are present. Evidence shows that if breast cancer is diagnosed at an early stage, more than 9 in 10 people have a positive outcome and early detection saves lives.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in the UK for women. Around 9500 people die each year from the disease; screening can help to reduce this number.

The last time your practice was screened you had an uptake rate of…..which is below/above the average of 73% for this programme (23/24) and……cancer was diagnosed.

I would like to support you and your staff to increase your breast screening uptake and are offering to come to the practice to provide training around the breast screening pathway and to give you the opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

Please contact me using the details at the end of this letter to discuss any training requirements or questions you may have.

**THE SCREENING PROCESS**

All women registered at your practice, aged between 50 and 71 will be invited for breast screening. I have enclosed a list of all the women who will be sent an invitation. If you would like to send reminder texts or targeted letters to these women please contact me and I can advise on how best to target these women.

Women from your practice will be invited to –

Withington Community Hospital

Oldham Integrated Care Centre

Trafford mobile unit – address

Salford mobile unit – address

Tameside mobile unit – address

Manchester mobile unit - address

In order that we do not issue any inappropriate invitations, please complete the attached proforma as soon as possible.

Women have had bilateral mastectomies do not need to be invited for breast screening. Please return the information as requested on the proforma.

We offer an enhanced pathway to women on the Learning Disabilities Register. Please indicate on the proforma any women aged between 50-71 who you know to be on the Learning Disabilities Register.

Guidance documentation about breast screening is available at [www.gov.uk/topic/population-screening-programmes](http://www.gov.uk/topic/population-screening-programmes).

There are various websites where you can obtain copies of leaflets, posters and breast screening information, including Easy Read documents which may be useful to have available in the practice waiting area over the next few months during the screening period. Please see the links in the email we have sent to you for more information.

Please contact me if you have any queries about the breast screening pathway and if you would like to take up the offer of training for your practice.

Yours sincerely,

Cancer Screening Improvement Lead

Greater Manchester Breast Screening Unit

Email

Phone