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## **European guidelines for quality assurance in breast cancer screening and diagnosis**

*Fourth Edition  
Supplements*

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<b>S1</b>	<b>Digital mammography update</b>	
	<b>European protocol for the quality control of the physical and technical aspects of mammography screening</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>Part 1      Acceptance and constancy testing</b>	<b>5</b>
	2b.1    Introduction	11
	2b.2    Image acquisition	13
	2b.3    Image processing	28
	2b.4    Image presentation	29
	Appendix 5   Tables for determination of average glandular dose	34
	Appendix 7   Linear system theory metrics and a practical guide to their measurement (optional)	38
	Appendix 8   Description of CDCOM version 1.6	45
	Appendix 9   Significance of test items	51
	<b>Part 2      European type testing</b>	<b>55</b>
	1      Introduction	58
	2      Type testing procedure	58
	3      Type testing protocol	61

## **S2 Pathology update**

### **Quality assurance guidelines for pathology 73**

- 1 Introduction 79
- 2 Columnar cell lesions and atypical ductal hyperplasia 79
- 3 Acceptable use of frozen sections 86
- 4 Classifying invasive carcinoma 87
- 5 Assessing the axilla 97
- 6 Microinvasive carcinoma 102
- 7 Pathological reporting of post-chemotherapy specimens 105
- 8 Vacuum-assisted needle core biopsy (VANCB) 109

### **Annex 1: Successful implementation of population-based cancer screening programmes 121**

- 1a Stockholm statement on successful implementation of population-based cancer screening programmes 123
- 1b Determinants of successful implementation of population-based cancer screening programmes 129

A full revision of the European guidelines for quality assurance in breast cancer screening and diagnosis is now under way, and the new, fifth edition is planned for publication in 2014 or 2015. In the meantime, these supplements to the current, fourth edition have been developed to address those fields that the editors felt warranted an earlier update of the standards, protocols and best practice recommendations. At a meeting of the editorial board in November 2009 in London, it was agreed that the supplements would be prepared by the same groups of experts engaged in the development of the fourth edition and according to the same methodology. The authors and editors welcome comments and feedback on these documents.



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## Determinants of successful implementation of population-based cancer screening programmes

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## **Cancer screening and early diagnosis in Mediterranean countries**

Capacity building in developing programs of organized cancer screening and  
early diagnosis

**First year activity report**





International Agency for Research on Cancer



**European Partnership for Action Against Cancer**

**European School of Screening Management**

## **Announcement**

**Two-week intensive training**

### **Principles, organization, evaluation, planning and management of cancer screening programmes**

**First module to be held in Lyon, France,  
19-23 November 2012  
at the International Agency for Research on Cancer**

**Second module to be held optionally at another place in the EU  
11-15 March 2013**

#### **Objective and description**

The course aims to improve implementation of cancer screening as currently recommended by the European Union, by introducing a comprehensive curriculum to interested staff of national or regional cancer screening management and evaluation units. Any other staff or professionals currently collaborating with established units or currently planning or interested in implementing cancer screening programmes are also eligible to participate.

## **Provisional Content of the course**

### **1st module**

#### **Section 1: Parameters of occurrence and current situation of breast, cervical and colorectal cancer in European and Mediterranean countries:**

- incidence, mortality, prevalence, survival
- stage distribution
- treatment

#### **Section 2: Principles of screening:**

- natural history of cancer, time window and type of testing
- lead time, length bias, test interval cases
- evidence of efficacy
- overdiagnosis
- overtreatment
- balance between benefits and harms
- ethics of screening

#### **Section 3: Screening organization:**

- opportunistic versus organised screening
- removing financial barriers
- necessary legal frameworks
- prerequisites of organised screening
- invitational aspects and how to reach optimal attendance
- delivering information about screening
- role of family physicians
- integration with health care system
- diagnostic and treatment centres
- pilot phase and rollout
- target population and inclusion/exclusion criteria
- screening protocol
- surveillance protocol
- fail safe mechanism I
- software for screening management

#### **Section 4: Screening evaluation:**

- designs of implementation and evaluation
- data items necessary for evaluation: information matrix and time axis
- performance indicators
- coverage and participation
- positive test
- assessment compliance rate