

BCSC Standard Definitions, Version 4

This document details key terms and definitions used by the Breast Cancer Surveillance Consortium (BCSC).

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BCSC DEFINITIONS FOR BREAST IMAGING EXAMS

Screening mammography without history of breast cancer

Mammograms, including digital breast tomosynthesis, are performed for either screening or diagnostic purposes. To determine whether a mammogram was for screening, different criteria may be applied depending on the population of interest. The following conditions may be used to define a screening mammogram. **Conditions 1-7 comprise the standard strict definition of a screening mammogram in women without a history of breast cancer** (BCSC variable *scrmam_c2*) often used in BCSC papers.

At a minimum, the exam must meet the following conditions:

- **Condition #1: The examination is a mammogram with an indication of “screening”**
The indication is usually provided by the radiologist or technologist.
- **Condition #2: First mammogram of the day**
Because multiple exams may occur on the same day, we typically only include the first exam in the sequence.

One or more of the following conditions may also be applied, to eliminate possible non-screening exams:

- **Condition #3: Unilateral views were not taken**
Unilateral exams may indicate that the woman had a previous unilateral mastectomy or that the exam was done for diagnostic purposes.
- **Condition #4: No mammogram in prior 3 months**
A mammogram within the prior three months may indicate a diagnostic exam since screening exams are not typically done at intervals less than 3 months.

The following three conditions may also be used to select screening mammograms among a population of women without a history of breast cancer:

- **Condition #5: No history of breast cancer**
History of breast cancer is based on the database or self-report.
- **Condition #6: No history of mastectomy**
Prior mastectomy is based on the database or self-report and may indicate a prior breast cancer diagnosis.
- **Condition #7: Exam assessment is not BI-RADS® 6**
BI-RADS 6 (known biopsy-proven malignancy) indicates prior breast cancer. ¹

The definition of a screening mammogram may vary depending on the analysis. For example, an analysis may require no self-reported breast symptoms. The analyst can exclude women with symptoms by using the BCSC computed variable *symp_c* (ordered by level of concern: lump, nipple discharge, other symptom not including pain, pain, other symptom not specified, and none). When an analysis includes both screening and diagnostic mammograms, the researchers may prefer to use only the radiologist’s indication for exam to classify the mammogram as screening or diagnostic. The BCSC variable *scrmam_c* excludes women with breast augmentation, which was commonly used prior to 2021.

Studies focused on surveillance in women with a personal history of breast cancer may apply other conditions as defined below.

Screening MRI without history of breast cancer

The BCSC collects up to three indications for magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) exams. The computed variable for indication applies a hierarchy (see **Appendix**) that keeps a screening indication only if no other indication is given.

The following conditions define a screening MRI without history of breast cancer (*scrmri_c*):

- **Condition #1: The examination is an MRI with an indication of “screening”**
- **Condition #2: First MRI of the day**
- **Condition #3: Bilateral views taken**
- **Condition #4: No MRI in prior 3 months**
- **Condition #5: No history of breast cancer**
- **Condition #6: No history of mastectomy**
- **Condition #7: Exam assessment is not BI-RADS 6**

Surveillance mammography/MRI with history of breast cancer

Women with a personal history of breast cancer (**PHBC**) are recommended to have breast imaging exams for screening, also referred to as **surveillance exams**. The BCSC definition of a surveillance exam differs in a few respects from the screening definition in women without PHBC, as summarized in the table below. The American College of Radiology specifies that either screening or diagnostic examination codes can be used for mammography performed in asymptomatic surveillance of women with treated breast cancer. A BCSC study showed facility variation in coding of indication among women with a history of breast cancer. ²

	Screening mammography/MRI without PHBC	Screening mammography/MRI with PHBC (surveillance)
Date of exam	No breast cancer history	≥6 months after breast cancer diagnosis, to allow the initial work-up and treatment period to end
Indication for exam	Screening	Screening; this is conservative as some screening exams are coded as diagnostic in the first few years after diagnosis
Exam sequence	First exam of the day if more than one	First exam of the day if more than one
No prior imaging (of same exam type) time window	3 months	90 days
BI-RADS assessment	Exclude BI-RADS 6	Exclude BI-RADS 6
Symptoms	Not considered	Not considered
Other	Not a unilateral exam No prior mastectomy (self-report at that exam or prior report in database)	No prior <u>bilateral</u> mastectomy (self-report at that exam or prior report in database)

Diagnostic mammography

The computed variable *dxmam_c* indicates whether a diagnostic mammogram, including digital breast tomosynthesis and regardless of breast cancer history, was performed. A diagnostic mammogram is defined as a mammogram with an indication of additional evaluation of recent mammogram, short-interval follow-up, evaluation of a breast problem or concern, or diagnostic not otherwise specified (variable *indicate* = 2, 3, 4, or 7). Sometimes multiple diagnostic mammograms may be performed to fully work-up a finding or concern; therefore, only the first diagnostic mammogram performed within 90 days is included in analyses to avoid double counting of exams performed for the same work-up.

Note that performance characteristics differ among the different indications for diagnostic mammogram.³⁻⁶ We do not recommend combining performance results across the different diagnostic indications.

Overall assessment

The BCSC currently uses the classification systems described in the BI-RADS Atlas Fifth Edition (2013) from the American College of Radiology.¹

Assessment categories in the BI-RADS manual:

- 0 indicates that additional imaging evaluation is needed (i.e., incomplete assessment)
- 1-5 indicate the level of suspicion for malignancy
 - 1: negative
 - 2: benign finding
 - 3: probably benign finding
 - 4: suspicious abnormality
 - 5: highly suggestive of malignancy
- 6 indicates a known biopsy-proven malignancy

Each exam contains fields for the left assessment, right assessment, and overall assessment, though not all facilities submit breast-level assessments. The overall assessment (*assmtot_c*) reflects the most serious assessment between the left and right breast. The "highest" assessment between the left and right breast follows a hierarchy ordered from high to low association with cancer risk and also most actionable result: 5 > 4 > 0 > 3 > 6 > 2 > 1. A BI-RADS 6 assessment should not appear in analyses of screening exams (and thus, should be excluded).

The BCSC computes the overall assessment from the left and right assessments. If left and right assessments are missing, we use the existing overall assessment.

Initial assessment (before any work-up)

The overall assessment of a screening mammogram may occasionally include results from additional work-up, which should not be included in most measures of radiologist screening performance. Instead, the initial assessment (*assminit_c*), which is made before any additional

imaging is performed, is more relevant to radiologist performance. Additional imaging includes diagnostic views or ultrasound done on the same day or used to help make the assessment (BCSC detail: *diagview* = 1-5, *useadv* = 1, *ultrasnd* = 1-5, *useultra* = 1, or a diagnostic imaging exam on the same day).

If additional imaging was done, the initial assessment for the screening mammogram is set to BI-RADS 0 (needs additional imaging evaluation). Otherwise, the overall assessment is considered to be the first recorded assessment in the imaging series.

We do not code initial assessment for diagnostic mammograms because performance is based on the final assessment. The initial assessment is typically not used for performance of surveillance mammography except for recall.

End-of-day assessment (after same-day work-up)

The end-of-day assessment is the BI-RADS assessment at the end of the day and includes any same-day imaging work-up (*assminit_eod_c*). The end-of-day assessment is used for some performance measures of surveillance mammography, because diagnostic views are often done as part of a surveillance exam and the BCSC cannot distinguish these from exams performed to work-up of a new finding. The initial assessment and end-of-day assessment are usually, but not always, the same for MRI because other same-day imaging is not typically done.

End-of-day assessments may be based on a same-day screening exam, which may not be suitable for analysis of surveillance exams. The project team should discuss how to handle these exams (which can be identified using *fufound_eod_c*).

Final assessment (after all work-up)

The final assessment (*assmfnl_c*) is given after all work-up is completed and considers the full screening process including any diagnostic work-up prompted by a finding on the screening exam; thus, the final assessment is useful for evaluating woman-level screening outcomes, and may be viewed as more patient-centered compared to radiologist performance measures that only consider the initial assessment based on screening views only.⁷ Final assessment should also be used when evaluating diagnostic or surveillance mammography.

Exams with an overall assessment (*assmtot_c*) of BI-RADS 0 and exams with a missing assessment are followed for 90 days to determine the final assessment, using the algorithm below. For all other exams, the final assessment is taken to be the overall assessment (*assmtot_c*). The BCSC method for resolving BI-RADS 0 has been refined over time.

A follow-up algorithm for final assessment was first implemented in 2016 (0315b data) and has been updated over the years. The table below reflects the algorithm implemented in 2024 (2023 data):

Follow-up algorithm for final assessment
Follow for 90 days to determine the final assessment if overall assessment is BI-RADS 0 or if exam is missing assessment
Follow-up will end at 90 days after the date of the exam that is being resolved (<i>examdate</i> + 90). However, a pathology, biopsy, aspiration, or breast cancer diagnosis date may end the follow-up period sooner: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set end of follow-up date to the earliest of: date of the exam to be resolved (<i>examdate</i>) + 90 days, next pathology date, next biopsy date, or next aspiration date 2. If the next pathology, biopsy, and aspiration dates are all missing or occur more than 90 days after the exam to be resolved (<i>examdate</i>), then check for breast cancer diagnosis <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If a breast cancer diagnosis occurs within 30 days prior to the exam to be resolved (<i>examdate</i>) then end of follow-up date is set to the date of the exam to be resolved (<i>examdate</i>) b. If a breast cancer diagnosis occurs within 90 days after the exam to be resolved (<i>examdate</i>) then end of follow-up date is set to the cancer diagnosis date. <p>(see note 2 below)</p> <p>Use all breast imaging exams occurring up to the end of follow-up.</p>
Excluding same-day screens (see note 3 below), use assessment from the first exam with BI-RADS assessment 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5
Otherwise, excluding same-day screens (see note 3 below), map BI-RADS assessment based on recommendation from last follow-up exam with a missing assessment or with a BI-RADS assessment of 0 or 6: BI-RADS 4, if biopsy recommendation BI-RADS 3, if short-interval follow-up BI-RADS 2, if normal interval follow-up
Otherwise, if biopsy or needle aspiration performed, code as BI-RADS 4
Otherwise, map BI-RADS based on recommendation from original exam: BI-RADS 4, if biopsy recommendation BI-RADS 3, if short-interval follow-up BI-RADS 2, if normal interval follow-up
Otherwise use assessment from the first same-day screen (see note 3 below) with BI-RADS assessment 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 (added 2023 cv2)
Otherwise, map BI-RADS assessment based on recommendation from last same-day screen (see note 3 below) with a missing assessment or with a BI-RADS assessment of 0 or 6 (added 2023 cv2): BI-RADS 4, if biopsy recommendation BI-RADS 3, if short-interval follow-up BI-RADS 2, if normal interval follow-up
If none of the above: Final assessment is unresolved and remains as an assessment of 0 or missing

Please note:

1. Mammography screening performance metrics based on the initial (vs final) assessment underestimate the interval cancer rate of a screening episode (i.e., screening mammogram and any diagnostic work-up), particularly for women with dense breasts or high breast cancer risk.⁷
2. Some cancer registries define the diagnosis date as the date of first evidence of breast cancer. If an abnormality is noted on a screening mammogram and the radiologist gives an assessment of 0, the mammogram date may be used as the diagnosis date even if additional imaging is performed on a later day. Therefore, we may be truncating the

follow-up period for final assessment too soon. This is why we only truncate at cancer diagnosis date if no record of a biopsy or aspiration is found within the follow-up period.

3. Within the definition of Final Assessment, we define a same-day screen as a screening exam that does not have diagnostic or additional views performed and occurs on the same day (but in a different record) as the exam we are trying to resolve.
4. Using a same-day screen to resolve final assessment may not be suitable when analyzing screening ultrasound or MRI. Instead, it may be more appropriate to leave the final assessment as unresolved and then impute assessment for all unresolved exams. Exams resolved with a same-day screen can be identified using `fufound_c`. The appropriate approach should be discussed with the project team.
5. The definition of final assessment may be modified depending on the analysis. Also, prior analyses may have used a modified definition based on earlier decisions. Please see the [prior version of the BCSC Glossary of Terms](#).

Positive and negative result

We use the BI-RADS assessment to define exam result as positive or negative.

For the **initial result** (`resinit_c`) and **end-of-day result** (`resinit_eod_c`), BI-RADS assessments 1 and 2 are considered negative and 0, 3, 4, and 5 are positive. BCSC began to consider assessments of 3 as positive starting in 2014 to be consistent with changes in the BI-RADS 5th edition. In earlier BCSC studies, BI-RADS 3 was considered positive only if immediate additional imaging (instead of short interval follow-up) was recommended. Please see the [prior version of the BCSC Glossary of Terms](#). According to BI-RADS guidelines, the **initial result** is used with screening exams for these performance measures: sensitivity, specificity, false-positive recall rate, false-negative recall rate, recall rate, cancer detection rate, and PPV1 (see PERFORMANCE MEASURES). However, the BCSC suggests using the **final result** (defined below) for sensitivity, false-negative recall rate, and cancer detection rate, because we believe it better reflects the full screening episode and as such is more patient centered.⁷ For analyses performed at the SCC, the working group will confirm which result variable to use for each performance measure.

Final result has two options, which treat BI-RADS assessment 3 (short-interval follow-up) differently:

- The **ACR BI-RADS definition of final result** (`resfnl_c`) considers BI-RADS assessments 1, 2, and 3 as negative and 4 and 5 as positive. This definition considers cancer detected on a short-interval follow-up exam to be interval cancer and may be more relevant to evaluation of the performance of the radiologist who gave the 3 assessment.
- More recently we have adopted an **alternative definition of final result** (`resfnl3pos_c`) for which BI-RADS assessments 1 and 2 are negative and 3, 4, and 5 are positive. This definition is useful for evaluating woman-level screening outcomes that consider the full screening process, because it was observed that most cancers diagnosed within one year after a BI-RADS 3 assessment were detected 6-8 months after the screening exam, consistent with detection via short-interval follow-up exam and not through symptomatic presentation.⁷ Thus, it is considered more appropriate to categorize these exams as true positive rather than false negative (interval cancer) exams.
- For both definitions of **final result**, unresolved BI-RADS 0s could either be excluded or imputed using an imputation model. If exams with unresolved 0s are excluded, the analysts should consider a sensitivity analysis that treats zeros as (a) all positive and (b) all negative, to ensure that exclusion does not bias the results. (Some women with an unresolved BI-RADS 0 exam may have had a biopsy that was not

captured by BCSC. Excluding these exams may underestimate the percentage with a biopsy or biopsy recommendation.) If imputing the final result (preferred method), only one imputation needs to be performed if <1% of final assessments are unresolved 0s. However, one should not impute final assessments of 8 (structurally missing) using the same imputation model, because they are missing due to a different mechanism. Typically, exams with a final assessment of 8 should be excluded from the study.

- According to the BI-RADS guidelines, the final result is used with screening exams for these performance measures: false-positive biopsy recommendation rate, PPV2, and PPV3 (see PERFORMANCE MEASURES) and for all performance measures with diagnostic mammograms. Note that PPV1 is not defined for diagnostic mammograms; in that case, it is the same as PPV2.

BCSC DEFINITIONS FOR BREAST CANCER DIAGNOSES

Breast cancer cases

We usually define breast cancer as invasive carcinoma or ductal carcinoma *in situ* (DCIS). Some analyses restrict to invasive breast cancer. The BCSC definition of breast cancer excludes lobular carcinoma *in situ* (LCIS), lymphoma, sarcoma (including cystosarcoma phyllodes), leukemia, and melanoma.

For a woman's first breast cancer diagnosis, we identify the earliest diagnosis of invasive breast cancer or DCIS using the cancer registry and pathology files and for one site, the biopsy follow-up file. If a woman has diagnoses of both invasive cancer and DCIS separated by more than 183 days, we take the earliest result as her first breast cancer. If the invasive cancer and DCIS diagnoses are within 183 days of each other, we use the invasive result, but retain the earlier date as the diagnosis date. For cancer characteristics (e.g., size, stage, nodal status) we use the most severe result from cancer registry records with the same cancer type (invasive or DCIS) within 183~~60~~ days of diagnosis. We fill in missing values using the most severe result from pathology, or, for one site, biopsy follow-up.

Follow-up period for breast cancer diagnosis after a breast imaging exam, for performance

For calculating performance measures, screening mammograms without a history of breast cancer are followed for one year (365 days) unless the next screening mammogram occurs within 90 days, in which case the follow-up period is truncated at that next screening mammogram (*Acad Radiol*, 2000). Non-screening exams done within 90 days after the initial mammogram do not truncate the follow-up period. This definition differs from the American College of Radiology (ACR) BI-RADS definition, which uses a strict 365-day follow-up period. Cancer diagnosed within the follow-up period is indicated by the variable *cancscrfu1yr_c2* with truncation and the variable *cancfu1yr_c* without truncation.

Screening MRI exams without a history of breast cancer are followed for one year for cancer diagnosis.. Cancer diagnosed within the follow-up period is indicated by the variable *cancfu1yr_c*. Whether truncation at the next screening exam is necessary and what modality should be used for the next screening exam should be discussed with the project team.

Surveillance mammograms are followed for one year for cancer diagnosis with truncation at the next surveillance mammogram.

For diagnostic mammograms, the follow-up period for cancer diagnosis is from 30 days before to one year after the exam. Cancer diagnosed within the follow-up period is indicated by *cancdxfu1yr_c*. We include a short period before the diagnostic exam because diagnosis dates assigned by cancer registries often reflect the first evidence of cancer, which can occur on a clinical exam before the diagnostic exam. If multiple cancer diagnoses exist during follow-up then one is chosen using this hierarchy:

- 1) If one or more cancers are diagnosed within 0-60 days after the exam, then the cancer closest to the exam is chosen.
- 2) Otherwise, if one or more cancers are diagnosed within 1-30 days before the exam, then the cancer closest to the exam is chosen.
- 3) Otherwise, if one or more cancers are diagnosed within 61-365 days after the exam, then the

cancer closest to the exam is chosen.

Mode of detection for breast cancer cases

The BCSC computed variable for mode of detection (*mode_of_detection*) is recommended for studies among breast cancer cases. Mode of detection is computed for a woman's first breast cancer diagnosis.

The figure illustrates the decision flow and definitions for *mode_of_detection*, coded as:

- 1: Screen detected
- 2: Interval detected (after false negative screening exam)
- 3: Clinically detected with no recent breast imaging exam
- 4: Interval detected (after diagnostic exam without screening exam in prior 12 months but with mammogram in prior 27 months)
- 5: Clinically detected, unknown if interval cancer
- Missing: Mode unknown

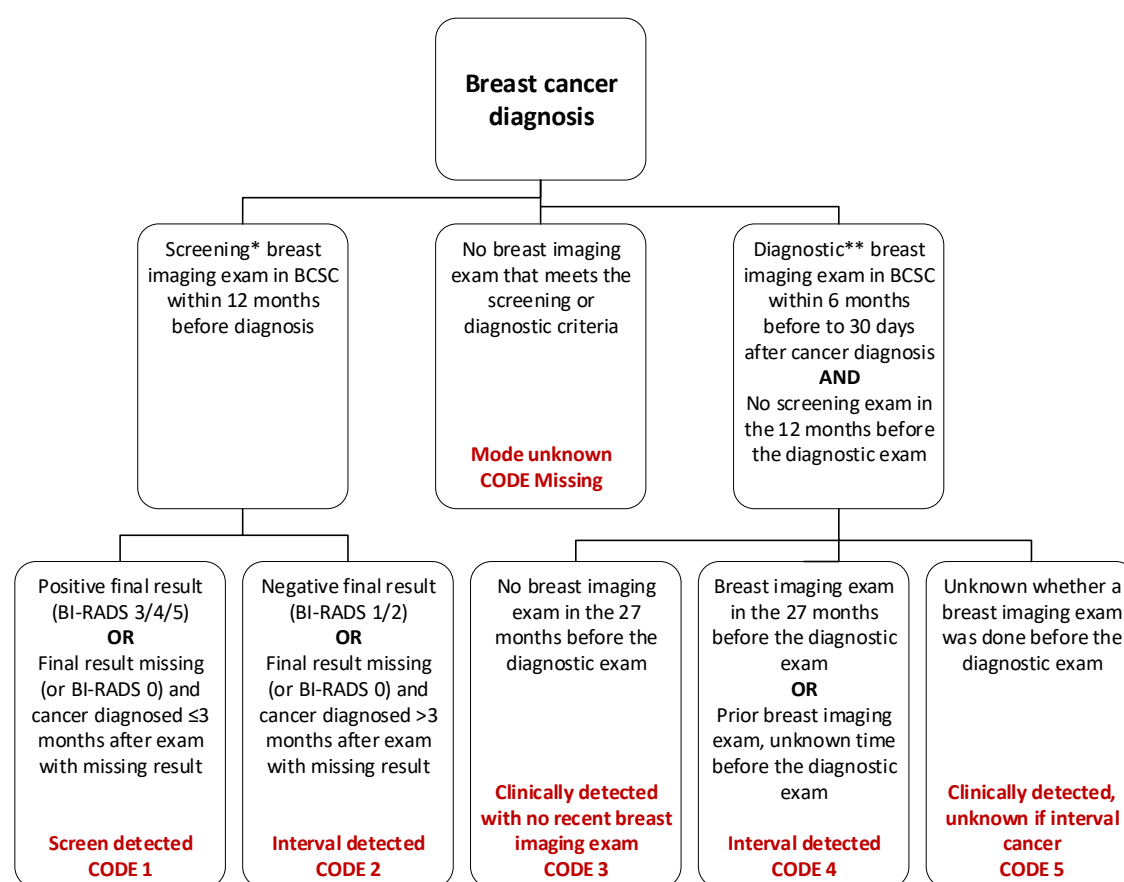


Figure. Decision Tree for Classifying Mode of Detection (*mode_of_detection*)

Breast imaging exam: mammogram, breast ultrasound, or breast MRI

* Screening: indication is routine screen (*indication* code 1). Pre-0419 data also requires: >9 months since last screening exam (of any type) OR missing time since last mammogram.

** Diagnostic: indication is diagnostic (*indication* codes 2, 3, 4, or 7).

Notes

- **If there is a screening exam (indication=screening) of any type (mammogram, MRI or ultrasound) within 12 months prior to diagnosis**, the BIRADS final assessment is used to determine if the cancer was screen-detected (SD) or interval detected (ID), as follows:

BIRADS assessment category

0: additional imaging evaluation needed (incomplete assessment) -> SD if ≤ 3 months to diagnosis; ID if > 3 months to diagnosis

1: negative -> ID

2: benign finding -> ID

3: probably benign finding -> SD

4: suspicious abnormality -> SD

5: highly suggestive of malignancy -> SD

6: known biopsy-proven malignancy -> SD if either (a) initial BI-RADS assessment 0 or (b) initial BI-RADS not 0 and mammogram in prior 3 months has final BI-RADS 3/4/5 or 0/missing and ≤ 3 months to diagnosis; ID if initial BI-RADS not 0 and mammogram in prior 3 months has final BI-RADS 1/2 or 0/missing and > 3 months to diagnosis

- **CODE 1** uses final assessment, not final result. Do not change code which treats final assessment 3 as "positive."
- **CODE 4:** As of the 0717 data release, the definition of *mode_of_detection* decreases the allowable time for a previous mammogram from 42 to 27 months for interval detection.
- The **definition of a screening exam** changed in the 0419 data release. Before 0419, a screening exam required > 9 months since the previous screening exam (of any type) OR time since the previous mammogram was missing. This requirement was dropped in 0419.
- About 4000 cases with missing BCSC mode-of-detection were supplemented with mode-of-detection computed from Medicare data from 2006-2010.
- **CISNET** uses an alternative version of the mode-of-detection variable (*mod_CISNET*)
 - For CISNET, screen-detected cancers are further divided by screening interval, keeping information about symptoms.
 - CISNET mode of detection allows prior mammogram up to 42 (rather than 27) months for interval detection.
 - The 0419 change in the definition of a screening exam (to remove requirement of > 9 months since the previous screening exam (of any type) OR time since the previous mammogram is missing) does NOT apply to *mod_CISNET*.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Definitions for performance measures often used in BCSC papers are provided in this section.

Positive and negative imaging results

Exam Type	Imaging Result	Cancer diagnosis within follow-up period	
		Yes	No
SCREENING <i>if using initial or end-of-day result</i>	Positive (BI-RADS 0, 3, 4, 5)	TP	FP
	Negative (BI-RADS 1, 2)	FN	TN
SCREENING <i>if using final result and treating BI-RADS 3 as positive</i>	Positive (BI-RADS 3, 4, 5)	TP	FP
	Negative (BI-RADS 1, 2)	FN	TN
SCREENING <i>if using final result and treating BI-RADS 3 as negative</i>	Positive (BI-RADS 4, 5)	TP	FP
	Negative (BI-RADS 1, 2, 3)	FN	TN
DIAGNOSTIC <i>if treating BI-RADS 3 as positive (use final result)</i>	Positive (BI-RADS 3, 4, 5)	TP	FP
	Negative (BI-RADS 1, 2)	FN	TN
DIAGNOSTIC <i>if treating BI-RADS 3 as negative (use final result)</i>	Positive (BI-RADS 4, 5)	TP	FP
	Negative (BI-RADS 1, 2, 3)	FN	TN

Table adapted from 5th Edition BI-RADS Manual, Follow Up and Outcome Monitoring Section, Fig. 1, page 20.

TP = true positive: a positive exam with DCIS or invasive breast cancer diagnosed within the follow-up period.

FP = false positive: a positive exam with no breast cancer diagnosed within the follow-up period.

TN = true negative: a negative exam with no breast cancer diagnosed within the follow-up period.

FN = false negative: a negative exam with DCIS or invasive breast cancer diagnosed within the follow-up period.

Definitions from BI-RADS 5th Edition: Follow Up and Outcome Monitoring ⁸

Sensitivity = $TP / (TP + FN)$

Sensitivity is the proportion of cancers diagnosed during follow-up that had a positive mammography result.

Specificity = $TN / (FP + TN)$

Specificity is the proportion of non-cancers during follow-up that had a negative mammography result.

Abnormal interpretation rate = All positive exams / All exams. See note 1 below.

Positive Predictive Value (PPV) has three definitions:

PPV₁ (abnormal finding at screening) = $TP / (TP + FP_1)$, where FP_1 = No known tissue diagnosis within 1 year after positive screening exam (initial assessment of 0, 3, 4, 5).

PPV₁ is the proportion of exams with a positive initial assessment that had a cancer diagnosis during follow-up. PPV₁ should be computed using the initial assessment. If no other PPV definitions are used, PPV₁ may be referred to as PPV.

The 5th edition of BI-RADS does not include PPV₁, but we have chosen to include it as a performance measure since PPV₁ was included in earlier BI-RADS editions.

PPV₂ (biopsy recommended) = $TP / (TP + FP_2)$, where FP_2 = No known tissue diagnosis within 1 year after positive final result.

PPV₂ is the proportion of exams with a positive final result that had a cancer diagnosis during follow-up.

PPV₃ (biopsy performed) = $TP / (TP + FP_3)$, where FP_3 = Concordant benign tissue diagnosis (or discordant benign tissue diagnosis and no known tissue diagnosis of cancer) within 1 year after positive final result. See note 3 below.

PPV₃ is the proportion of exams with positive final result and biopsy performed within 1 year of the exam that had a cancer diagnosis during follow-up.

Negative Predictive Value (NPV) = $TN / (TN + FN)$

NPV is the proportion of exams with a negative assessment that did not have a cancer diagnosis during follow-up.

False Positive Rate (FPR) = $FP / (FP + TN)$

FPR is the proportion of non-cancers during follow-up that had a positive mammography assessment. FPR equivalent to 1- Specificity.

Cancer Detection Rate (CDR) = $1000 * TP / (TP + FP + FN + TN)$

CDR is the proportion of exams with both a positive assessment and a cancer diagnosis during follow-up. It is usually computed per 1000 mammograms.

Notes

1. Whether an assessment of BI-RADS 3 is considered positive or negative depends on the analysis (see Table).
2. The BCSC does not necessarily capture every biopsy that occurs. Therefore, the denominators for PPV₂ and PPV₃ may differ. For PPV₃, the denominator is the number of biopsies for which there is a record in the pathology file and the numerator is the subset of those biopsies that result in a cancer diagnosis.

Note about follow-up time

The length of follow-up can affect screening mammogram classifications. For example:

Date	Event	Assessment	Classification (BCSC)
Jan 1, 2000	Screening mammogram	Negative	True negative
Nov 1, 2000	Screening mammogram	Positive	True positive
Nov 1, 2000	Cancer diagnosed		

Using the ACR definition, the first mammogram would be classified as false negative because breast cancer was diagnosed within 365 days after a negative exam. According to the BCSC definition, however, the follow-up period ended October 31, 2000 because of the November 1, 2000 screening exam—so the first mammogram would be classified as true negative. This results in increased sensitivity compared to the ACR definition.

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APPENDIX

Indication for MRI: hierarchy used in computed variable

MRI exams can have up to three indications. The computed variable for indication applies a hierarchy that keeps a screening indication only if no other indication is given. The first indication that appears in the list below is used in the computed variable:

Indication for exam, raw data (<i>indic1, indic2, indic3</i>)	Raw code	Indication for exam, computed variable (CV) (<i>indicate_c</i>)	CV code
Evaluation for extent of disease of recent breast cancer diagnosis	20	Evaluation for extent of disease or Axillary adenopathy (malignant), unknown primary	6
Response to chemotherapy	21	Other procedures	5
Axillary adenopathy (malignant), unknown primary	41	Evaluation for extent of disease or Axillary adenopathy (malignant), unknown primary	6
Additional evaluation of recent imaging	31	Additional evaluation of recent breast imaging exam	2
Breast problem	30	Evaluation of breast problem (symptomatic)	4
Recurrence vs. scar	42	Evaluation of breast problem (symptomatic)	4
Short interval follow-up	32	Short interval follow-up	3
Diagnostic, not otherwise specified	70	Diagnostic, not otherwise specified	7
Implant evaluation*	40	Other procedures	5
Screening	10	Routine screening (asymptomatic)	1
Other	50	Other procedures	5
Unknown	99	Unknown	9
Structural missing	88	Structural missing	8

* MRI exams done on women with implants can be for screening if the exam includes contrast administration. This cannot be determined in BCSC data so implant evaluation is excluded from screening because some non-contrast exams are performed to evaluate for implant rupture and are not for cancer screening or surveillance. Do not exclude if there is only self-report of breast implants.