

Invest in continuing professional development of staff training

The state of scientific knowledge about mammography and breast cancer is constantly evolving. In order for the regions to offer high-quality screening services based on the latest knowledge, they need to provide regular opportunities for professional development for staff working with breast cancer screening.

More areas for improvement for regions

- Mammography units need to ensure that all women receive equal and quality-assured information about screening using the quality-assured national screening invitations. All regions also need to offer the possibility/option to reschedule their appointment via 177 or online.
- Breast cancer screening can cause anxiety and stress, and some women need more information and support. Mammography units therefore need to offer additional services, such as telephone counselling to those women who feel uneasy. This may result in more women participating in the screening programme.
- Participation may increase if women who do not attend breast cancer screening receive a new invitation with a pre-scheduled appointment. More mammography units need to introduce procedures and systems for this.

National quality register

A national quality register is needed to monitor the development and quality of the screening programme. Although breast cancer screening has been carried out for many years in Sweden, no specific quality register exists with data that can be used for national monitoring.

➔ More information about the performance assessment is available (in Swedish) on the National Board of Health and Welfare's website, www.socialstyrelsen.se.