



# Screening Dense Breasts: Why Contrast-Enhanced Mammography - Evidence and Plaidoyer

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In the Netherlands, breast cancer screening is offered to women 50-75 years every two years using full-field digital mammography (FFDM). However, the accuracy of FFDM is dependent on breast density. In women with extremely dense breasts, sensitivity can drop to approximately 65%. The recent results of the Dutch DENSE trial showed that women with extremely dense breasts and a negative screening mammogram benefit from supplemental breast MRI to cope with FFDM's reduced accuracy in this group of women. Although promising, the implementation of screening MRI on a nationwide level is challenging in many aspects.

Contrast-Enhanced Mammography (CEM) uses a principle similar to breast MRI and might be considered as a more practical solution as supplemental imaging method in screening. CEM is cheaper, more easy to perform in high volumes of cases and examinations can be stored and read much more easy than MRI. However, it comes at the price of an increased radiation dose and, as for MRI, the risk of hypersensitivity reactions due to contrast administration.

This presentation will explain the current dilemmas in the Dutch breast cancer screening program with respect to the implementation of MRI and the potential of CEM as alternative. Main topics will be the pros and cons of different approaches and discuss which hurdles still need to be taken as next steps.

## NOTES

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