

Breast imaging: general impact and recovery from COVID-19 pandemic

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The novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak has indeed impacted on both healthy women undergoing screening examinations, women who had a breast cancer (BC) needing follow-up breast imaging as well as symptomatic women asking for assessment. Organized screening programs in different European countries had variable stops and restarts. Also, the assessment of symptomatic cases and of breast imaging follow-up had variable delays. The clinical effect of these delays will be investigated with future analysis. Scientific societies provided recommendations for the performance of breast imaging in the COVID-19 era, such as the EUSOBI (<https://www.eusobi.org/news/recommendations-breast-covid19/>) and the Italian College of Breast Radiologists by SIRM (Pediconi F, et al. Radiol Med 2020; 125:926–930. doi: 10.1007/s11547-020-01254-3). Decisions must be taken balancing patient's individual and community safety, with following priorities: assessment of symptomatic women or screening recalls; high-risk screening; asymptomatic women performing annual mammographic follow-up after breast cancer.