



What is the National Breast Cancer Audit?

The National Breast Cancer Audit, a review of breast cancer surgery, has been running for more than 10 years. The audit is designed to ensure patients receive the best possible care and that breast surgeons, who are committed to improving care, can get the information they need to achieve the highest standards of patient care.

The National Breast Cancer Audit collects information from surgeons in Australia and New Zealand about the treatment of breast cancer patients. This allows surgeons to assess their practice and compare it with their peers and industry standards. By participating in the audit, your surgeon is demonstrating a commitment to improving the quality of care for women with breast cancer.

The information you give helps to:

- compile Australian and New Zealand statistics about treating breast cancer;
- create a practice profile for your surgeon with details of his/her patients;
- continuously upgrade care for breast cancer patients.

Who conducts it?

The National Breast Cancer Audit is a clinical audit of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) Breast Surgery Section. The audit is managed by the Australian Safety and Efficacy of New Interventional Procedures-Surgical (ASERNIP-S), a RACS research program in the Research, Audit and Academic Surgery Division, designed to evaluate surgical techniques.

How does it work?

Unless you choose not to participate, your surgeon will enter medical information about your breast cancer diagnosis and treatment into the National Breast Cancer Audit database.

Before the information can be used, it will be “de-identified”. That means the National Breast Cancer Audit team will not see your name and your name will not appear with any of your medical records. The audit has also been declared under a piece of legislation that means data cannot be disclosed except for “general reporting purposes”, such as annual reports and research papers.

If you have any questions or concerns about allowing your information to be used in the audit, please discuss them with your surgeon or contact the National Breast Cancer Audit team at ASERNIP-S.

For a full list of surgeons participating in the audit, go to www.surgeons.org/nbca

PRIVACY INFORMATION

- Your surgeon will release some potentially identifying information to the National Breast Cancer Audit: your date of birth and the first three letters of your surname.
- This and any other potentially identifying information will be removed before it is used to compile any report or evaluation. No report or evaluation will use any information that could identify you.
- The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing may authorise the National Breast Cancer Audit to release information to other organisations, but this will not include any information that could identify you.
- The National Breast Cancer Audit is strongly committed to protecting your privacy and maintains high levels of data security.
- It is up to you to decide whether you would like to give your medical information to the National Breast Cancer Audit. However, your surgeon will submit your information unless you inform them that you do not wish to take part. If you would prefer not to participate, it is important that you tell your surgeon or contact National Breast Cancer Audit staff directly.

For more information about the ASERNIP-S privacy policy, please refer to the ASERNIP-S website: <http://www.surgeons.org/asernip-s/privacypolicy>

The Breast Audit is affiliated with the following breast cancer organisations:



www.bcna.org.au



**NATIONAL
BREAST AND OVARIAN
CANCER CENTRE**

www.nbocc.org.au



**NATIONAL
BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION**

www.nbcf.org.au

The decision about taking part in the audit is entirely up to you. You are under no obligation to participate and if you decide not to, it will have no impact on your treatment plan.

If you do not wish to participate in the audit please tell your surgeon or contact the audit team via the details below. Contact either by filling out and posting/faxing the opt-out form attached to this flier or calling/emailing and asking to speak to National Breast Cancer Audit staff.

National Breast Cancer Audit
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Stepney
South Australia 5069
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I decline to participate in the National Breast Cancer Audit

Full name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Surgeon name: _____

Patient signature: _____ Date: _____