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## Benefits and harms of mammographic screening – what are the disagreements?

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### Seminar programme

January 31, 2013

Clarion Hotel Royal Christiania

Oslo, Norway

*This screening seminar will focus on why the effect estimates of mammographic screening, defined as breast cancer mortality, excess incidence (overdiagnosis), and false positive screening results, vary between studies.*

*Scientists have debated the efficacy and effectiveness of mammographic screening for decades. The aim of this seminar is to shed light on the reasons for these disagreements. Study designs and methods used in various studies will be presented and discussed.*

# Benefits and harms of mammographic screening – what are the disagreements?

Chairpersons:

Professor Emeritus Rolf Kåresen, University of Oslo/Oslo University Hospital and  
Professor Giske Ursin, Director of the Cancer Registry of Norway

09:15 Coffee and registration

10:00-10:15 **Welcome and introduction**

Professor Giske Ursin, Director of the Cancer Registry of Norway, Oslo  
Professor Solveig Hofvind, Senior Researcher, Cancer Registry of Norway, Oslo

10:15-10:35 **The methods used in the study “Overdiagnosis of breast cancer after 14 years of mammography screening”**

Dr. Per Henrik Zahl, Senior Statistician, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Oslo

10:35-11:05 **“Overdiagnosis in mammographic screening for breast cancer in Europe: a literature review”; a summary of the paper with focus on the methodological issues**

Dr. Eugenio Paci, Director of the Unit of Descriptive and Clinical Epidemiology,  
Istituto per lo Studio e la Prevenzione Oncologica, Florence

11:05-11:20 Discussion

11:20 -11:35 **“False-positive results in mammographic screening for breast cancer in Europe: a literature review and survey of service screening programmes”**

Professor Solveig Hofvind, Senior Researcher, Cancer Registry of Norway, Oslo

11:35-11:45 Discussion

11:45-12:45 Lunch

12:45-13:00 **“The impact of mammographic screening on breast cancer mortality in Europe: a review of trend studies”; a summary of the paper with focus on the methodological issues**

Professor Sue Moss, Senior Epidemiologist, Centre for Cancer Prevention,  
Wolfson Institute of Preventive Medicine, Queen Mary University of London

13:00-13:15 **The methods used in the study “Effect of screening mammography on breast-cancer mortality in Norway”**

Dr. Mette Kalager, Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute of Health and Society, University of Oslo

13:15-13:45 **“Breast cancer mortality in mammographic screening in Europe: a review of incidence-based mortality studies” and “The impact of mammographic screening on breast cancer mortality in Europe: a review of observational studies”; a summary with focus on the methodological issues**

Dr. Mireille Broeders, Senior Epidemiologist, Department for Health Evidence,  
Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen

13:45-14:00 Discussion

14:00-14:15 Coffee break

14:15-14:35 **Summary of the evidence of breast cancer service screening outcomes in Europe and first estimate of the benefit and harm balance sheet**

Dr. Eugenio Paci, Director of the Unit of Descriptive and Clinical Epidemiology,  
Istituto per lo Studio e la Prevenzione Oncologica, Florence

14:35-14:50 Discussion

14:50-15:35 **The benefits and harms of breast cancer screening: an assessment by the Independent UK Panel on Breast Cancer Screening**

Professor Simon G. Thompson, Director of Research in Biostatistics,  
Department of Public Health and Primary Care, University of Cambridge

15:35-15:45 Discussion

15:45-16:05 Coffee break

16:05-17:00 Panel discussion, led by Professor Emeritus Kåresen and Professor Ursin  
All speakers

17:00-17:10 Concluding remarks by Professor Ursin