



BREAST SCREENING

Diagnosis and care for your employees

THE HARLEY STREET CLINIC

THE LISTER HOSPITAL
chelsea

London Bridge Hospital

The Portland Hospital
for Women and Children

THE PRINCESS GRACE HOSPITAL

The Wellington Hospital

HARLEY STREET AT UCH

BREAST SCREENING

Breast cancer now affects 1 in every 9 women in the UK, so it is likely that you may already have experienced supporting an employee through diagnosis and treatment. As London's leading private hospital network and the largest private cancer network outside the NHS, we work with many companies to provide a range of diagnostic and treatment options for their female employees (and spouses).

Many of these companies came to us initially because more than one female colleague had approached them asking what they should do: where should they go for tests? which consultants should they see? what were their treatment options? what did their insurance cover?

As an employer, you may already provide private health insurance but there are other simple support systems you can put in place so that when a female employee or spouse does discover a problem, these questions can be dealt with quickly, in confidence and with minimum anxiety.

This leaflet outlines the services we provide, together with details of our special screening services, for major employers in London.

Our breast services

One-stop breast clinics

These are consultant-led clinics which provide rapid, if not same day, diagnostics. Based in several of our London hospitals and at our outpatient centre in Old Broad Street (see location map), these clinics are available throughout the week.

Normally, an employee can be seen within 48 hours (compared with 2 weeks at most NHS hospitals).

Breast care nurses

Our hospitals providing cancer services have nurses trained specifically to care for patients with breast cancer. They are there throughout every step of the treatment process to provide support and information.

Screening services

Breast screening has been proven to reduce the risk of death from breast cancer by 40%. HCA now offers the latest digital mammography screening at four of its London sites, which provides a 40% improvement in cancer detection. Bespoke screening programmes can be set up on behalf of your workforce at four of our London locations.

Treatment

In the event that an employee needs further treatment, they have the choice of accessing treatment through any of our HCA London hospitals. By combining the resources and expertise of these hospitals, we can provide the widest private cancer network in the UK.

Most of our surgeons and oncologists are from NHS teaching hospitals, but patients can choose the time and place of their treatment. If a patient would prefer to access the NHS, we can advise and facilitate this process quickly through any of our breast care centres.

Information

There is a huge array of information available, particularly on the internet. We provide well researched information libraries at our hospitals and can also support specific employee education programmes with expert advice and materials.



Clinics and locations

Diagnosis and care for your employees is based at the hospitals highlighted in pink. Appointments can be booked at short notice, sometimes for the following day and some clinics are held during the evenings. For details of clinics, times and to make an individual appointment employees simply call the HCA **Platinum Choice** helpline on **020 7079 4355**.

Breast screening is currently provided at The Lister Hospital, London Bridge Hospital and The Princess Grace Hospital.

The HCA breast screen

The following screening programme is designed for women over the age of 40 years.

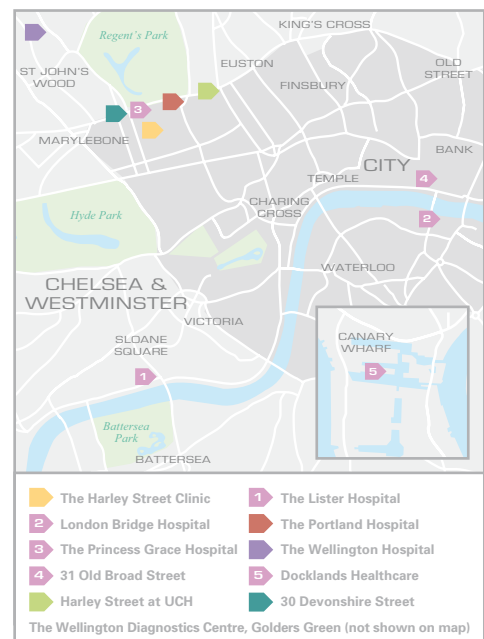
- ▶ Patients receive a breast care awareness pack
- ▶ A radiologist conducts a digital mammogram which will provide a detailed image of the breast tissue
- ▶ A written report is prepared and sent to the patient's GP - this will normally be within 10 days. The GP will make contact with the patient in the event that any follow-up is required.

Note: Occasionally, if a mammogram is unreadable the patient will be called back for a repeat mammogram. This is normally routine and no additional cost will be charged for this.

Breast Screen Fee: £190*

To discuss screening for your workforce please call the HCA Commercial team on **020 7616 4848**.

* Fee correct at the time of going to print and subject to annual review.



Frequently asked questions

What age should I recommend my staff start screening from?

The recommended age is 40, although some women are advised to start the screening process earlier if they are at a high risk genetically.

How frequently should they be screened?

We recommend your staff are screened regularly. If they are over 50 or at a high risk genetically they should be screened every 12-15 months. If at high risk, an MRI may also be required. You shouldn't have more than one mammogram in 12 months.

Where do the results of screenings go to?

The results are sent to the referring clinician, or the employee's GP in the case of a standard screen.

What happens if something is detected?

We have one-stop breast clinics which run at times convenient to your staff. These are consultant-led clinics which provide rapid, if not same day diagnostics based in four of our London hospitals. Some clinics are held in the evenings and often an employee can be seen on the next day (compared with two weeks at the NHS).

Do employees always need a GP referral to see a specialist?

Many of our clinics can be accessed without a GP referral however most insurance companies require a GP referral in order to process a claim. We advise employees to check with their insurer regarding their requirements. If insurance is not to be used, employees can contact our clinics directly. A GP referral is not required for standard screening.

Can employees choose which consultant they see?

We have many consultants who regularly practice in our hospitals and clinics and can provide a full list of consultants specialising in this area of treatment. Employees can choose who they see and when.

How can I ensure that employees in my organisation know about HCA clinics?

We can provide full details of relevant clinics for you to circulate to your employees. Alternatively, they can call the HCA **Platinum Choice** helpline on **020 7079 4355** for advice about treatments and clinics at all our London hospitals.

How can I ensure that our private GPs know about these clinics?

We regularly meet and communicate with GPs in London. However, if you would like to give us details of your GPs, we can ensure that they are included in this programme.



Breast screening at work

Marks and Spencer send most of their London based employees from the age of 40 upwards for breast screening at the Princess Grace's breast diagnostic centre. Currently around 28,000 employees from the M&S stores across the country are screened every two years. Should breast cancer be detected, it is therefore caught in the very early stages, massively increasing the chances of a quick and full recovery. Janet Pain, the breast screening administrator of Marks and Spencer comments,

'The Princess Grace has always given an excellent service, not only with the thoroughness of the screening but also if any follow up is needed. They are extremely caring and sensitive during this anxious time.'

**MARKS &
SPENCER**