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Dual Screening More Effective in Breast Cancer Gene Carriers

Findings were based on data from 22 studies that included 8,139 women who carried the BRCA1 gene. Results indicated that dual screening increased the average life expectancy by 1.38 years compared with follow-up only without screening tests (clinical surveillance). The false-positive rate was 84.0 percent.

The report shows that mammography is not as sensitive at detecting breast cancers in BRCA1 mutation carriers as in the general population. Previous research has shown that MRI can achieve higher sensitivity than mammography, though it is not yet clear if this translates into reduced breast cancer mortality.

Published on : Mon, 3 Mar 2008