

Tomosynthesis Mammography

Investing in leading-edge technology for the Breast Health Center

Exceptional women's health is essential to MarinHealth's mission, and the Breast Health Center in Greenbrae — the North Bay's destination for mammography, biopsies, and follow-up care — is a key contributor to our growing reputation for leading-edge medicine. Designed for comfort and convenience, this ultramodern facility mobilizes advanced digital technology to provide care that is individualized and nurturing. Our team includes coordinators to support patients at high risk for breast cancer, patient navigators who ease the path from diagnosis to treatment, and esteemed, specialized breast radiologists and breast surgeons, as well as exceptional nurses.

With more than 20,000 mammography visits per year, the Breast Health Center is now one of MarinHealth's most prominent locations. And trends are converging to drive local demand even higher. Research shows that less than half of all women in Marin County currently receive mammograms, signaling a need to increase awareness and expand our capacity. Meanwhile, the United States Preventive Services Taskforce recently reduced the routine screening age for breast cancer to 40, which will prompt younger women to seek our services.



Because early detection is the best protection when it comes to breast health, MarinHealth relies on leading-edge tomosynthesis mammography to serve our patients. Anticipating recommended guidelines for replacement, we are raising funds in 2025 toward the purchase and installation of new equipment in 2026.

Your support for the purchase of next-generation tomosynthesis mammography units, will make high-quality mammograms even easier and faster—improving the experience for patients and expanding our ability to meet a wide range of needs.



"Our Breast Health Center is committed to leading the fight against breast cancer by providing the highest standard of personalized, compassionate, and innovative care to our community. Your generous support will allow us to upgrade our technology, and ensure that we continue to lead in early detection, providing the safest, most effective, and most comfortable care for our patients."
— Natalya Lvoff, MD
Medical Director,
Breast Health Center

Next-generation Tomosynthesis Mammography Equipment to Meet a Growing Need

Tomosynthesis is an advanced form of mammography that uses digital x-rays to create thin, detailed images of the breast. By enabling radiologists to see breast tissue in greater detail, the technology helps detect breast cancer early when it is easier to treat. Scrolling through images captured by the machine, radiologists are better able to distinguish between suspicious and normal findings, reducing the number of false positives.

The tomosynthesis mammography equipment MarinHealth seeks for the Breast Health Center will offer innovative capabilities while addressing growing demand for mammography in the North Bay. FDA-approved, from manufacturer Hologic, this system operates with a completely rebuilt software program that changes how images are acquired. By targeting denser areas, the equipment is able to reduce the patient's radiation exposure while producing sharper images. AI technology further improves results by automatically adjusting to different technicians, who may apply compression differently while conducting mammograms. The new equipment is also significantly faster than other models, taking only 2.6 seconds to capture an image.

Special features of the new system will make mammograms even easier and more accurate. Patients will be able to use a display on the machine to confirm their identity. Voice prompts in 27 languages will support clear communication and help avoid potential errors. The technician will be able to see captured images right on the unit, making it easier to position the patient for greatest comfort. And because the new machines will be easier to maneuver, people with mobility challenges will find the process more accommodating.

What can philanthropy do?

With demand for breast imaging growing in the North Bay, the purchase of advanced tomosynthesis mammography equipment will usher MarinHealth's Breast Health Center into a new era of personalized, leading-edge medicine. Replacing four machines at \$500,000 each, we anticipate costs totaling \$2 million. Your gift will enable us to raise the already high standards that make MarinHealth a leading destination for women's health, offering advanced mammograms that save lives in our community.

At-a-Glance

The next-generation tomographic mammography equipment MarinHealth seeks will address growing demand with advanced capabilities, including:

- Significantly faster than current equipment
- Less radiation exposure
- AI-supported, higher-quality images
- Easier and more accurate imaging for patients with dense tissue or mobility challenges
- Voice prompts in 27 languages
- Greater maneuverability
- More personalization for each patient

To learn more or make a gift that advances breast health in the North Bay, please contact MarinHealth Foundation at 1-415-925-7770 or Foundation@mymarinhealth.org