

October 2026

Dear Patient,

As part of our Advanced Primary Care Management (APCM) program, we are committed to supporting your overall health and helping you take steps to prevent illness. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, making it a good time to make sure you are up to date with your breast cancer screening. A mammogram can help detect breast cancer early, when it is most treatable.

In Mississippi, fewer women are diagnosed with breast cancer than in the nation as a whole. However, more women in Mississippi die from the disease. Mississippi has one of the highest mortality rates for breast cancer in the country. One of the main reasons is that breast cancer is too often found at a later stage.

The good news is that a mammogram can detect breast cancer early, often before you can feel a lump or notice other symptoms. When breast cancer is found early, before it has spread, more than 99% of women are alive five years later.

Please scan the QR code or use the provided link to view a brief video message from Libby Y.C. Kot, MD, with Hattiesburg Clinic Obstetrics & Gynecology. In this video, she discusses the importance of a yearly mammogram. You can also access the video at the following link: <https://www.hattiesburgclinic.com/monthly-resources/>.



What You Should Know About A Mammogram

- It is quick. A mammogram typically takes only a few minutes. You may experience some pressure or discomfort during the procedure, but it is usually brief.
- Regular screening is important. We recommend annual mammograms for those ages 40 through 74 for women at average risk. If you are 75 or older, please talk with your primary care physician or OB-GYN about whether continuing screening is right for you. If you have had a mastectomy, please let your primary care physician know so we can ensure your medical record accurately reflects your screening needs.
- Medicare covers screening mammograms. Medicare generally covers a screening mammogram once every 12 months for eligible beneficiaries at no cost when the service is provided by a Medicare-participating provider.

Breast Cancer Can Affect Men, Too

Although breast cancer is much less common in men, it can occur. Men should be aware of changes such as a lump or swelling in the breast, changes to the skin, dimpling, or nipple changes or discharge. If you notice any unusual changes, please contact your primary care physician promptly.

Do You Need a Mammogram?

If it has been more than a year since your last mammogram, or if you are unsure when you last had one, please contact your case management nurse or primary care physician. We can help determine whether you are due for screening and assist with scheduling.



If you are new to the APCM program, please see the APCM welcome video from Bryan N. Batson, MD, chief executive officer of Hattiesburg Clinic. You can access the video at the following link:

<https://www.hattiesburgclinic.com/welcome-video/>

Thank you for trusting Hattiesburg Clinic with your health care needs. We are here to support you every step of the way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan N. Batson".

Bryan N. Batson, MD
Chief Executive Officer
Hattiesburg Clinic

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan McCall".

Daniel T. McCall, IV, MD
ACO Medical Director
Hattiesburg Clinic

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judd M. Reynolds".

Judd M. Reynolds, DO
Chair, Department of Primary Care
Hattiesburg Clinic