

Media statement

12 April 2017

BreastScreen Queensland is back in Tin Can Bay this May

Once again the BreastScreen Queensland mobile van will be setting up in the grounds of Cathy House, Coral Trout Drive, Tin Can Bay from 10 - 31 May 2017.

BreastScreen Health Promotion Officer Kelly Hart said regular two yearly breast cancer screening was still the best way to find breast cancer early – well before a woman or her doctor can feel anything.

Women aged 50-74 years are particularly encouraged to participate in the BreastScreen Queensland Program as the risk of developing breast cancer increases with age. However women are eligible for a free breast screen every two years at a BreastScreen Queensland Service once they turn 40.

Ms Hart said even with a great amount of publicity about breast cancer, there were still a lot of women who had not made having a breast screen a regular part of their health regime.

“Many women believe they are not at risk of developing breast cancer because none of their relatives have been diagnosed with it,” Ms Hart said.

“However nine out of 10 women diagnosed with breast cancer have no family history of the disease. While women with a family history of breast cancer are more at risk, most women diagnosed have no family history of the disease at all.”

While some women in and around Tin Can Bay will have received a letter from BreastScreen Queensland inviting them to make an appointment at the mobile service, it is not just women who receive a letter from BreastScreen Queensland who can participate in this free screening program.

“Women who haven’t received a letter from BreastScreen but who would like to make an appointment with our service can just call 13 20 50 or they can book online at www.breastscreen.qld.gov.au There are no referrals required.

“There is no need for women to put off having a breast screen any longer. It’s quick, simple, convenient and free!” Ms Hart said.

Media contact: Kelly Hart | 5470 5041

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THE FACTS:

- **75% of women diagnosed with breast cancer are over 50.** Younger women do get breast cancer, but the risk of breast cancer increases dramatically after the age of 50.
- **9 out of 10 women diagnosed with breast cancer have NO family history of the disease.** While women with a family history of breast cancer are more at risk, most women diagnosed have no family history of the disease at all.
- **A breast screen every two years is the best way to detect breast cancer early, well before you or your doctor can feel anything.**
- Women aged 40 years and over are eligible for a free breastscan every two years at a BreastScreen Queensland Service. Women aged 50-74 years are particularly encouraged to attend.

Appointments are available now and no referral is needed.

Phone 13 20 50 for an appointment or for more information.

Early detection could save your life.

ENDS

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