

### Media statement

7 March 2018

#### **BreastScreen van at Nambour Mill Shopping Village**

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service's (SCHHS) BreastScreen Queensland's mobile van is back at the Nambour Mill this month.

Women are encouraged to organise their two yearly breast screen while the service is at the shopping precinct until 23 March 2018.

SCHHS Health Promotion Officer Kelly Hart said the service had appointments available now, with some days starting at 7:30am.

"We understand that it can be difficult for busy women to find time to attend appointments between nine and five so we try to offer a variety of appointment times," Ms Hart said.

"One in eight Queensland women will develop breast cancer at some stage in their life. As there is currently no means of preventing breast cancer, the focus in reducing deaths from this disease has been on finding breast cancer as early as possible."

Women aged 50 to 74 are particularly encouraged to have a breast screen every two years, however the service is provided free to women aged 40 years and over.

"It's not just women who receive a letter from BreastScreen Queensland who can participate in this free screening program," Ms Hart said.

"Women who haven't received a letter but who would like to make an appointment with our Service can just call 13 20 50 or they can book online at [breastscreen.qld.gov.au](http://breastscreen.qld.gov.au). There are no referrals required," Ms Hart said.

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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 breast screen 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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