Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care

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Table 8. False Positive and False Positive Biopsy Calculations (Breast Cancer Screening Cohort) - Revised

False Positives and Unnecessary Biopsies from an Estimated Cohort of Women in a Breast Screening Program ¹				
	40-49 years	50-59 years	60-69 years	70-74 years
Per 1,000 women screened (3 cycles of screening for which women are screened every 2-3 years, for a total of 6-9 years of a screening period) ²				
FP Mammography	294	294	256	219
Biopsies on FP	43	37	35	30
	40-49 years	50-59 years (M)	60-69 years	70-74 years
Per one death prevented				
NNS (95%CI) ‡ (over a median screening period of 7 years, with median follow-up of 23 years)	1,724 (1,176 to 3,704)	1,333 (909 to 2,857)	1,087 (741 to 2,326)	645 (441 to 1,389)
FP Mammography (based on 3 cycles of screening) ²	508	392	278	141
Biopsies on FP (based on 3 cycles of screening) ²	74	50	38	19

M: Moderate baseline risk

^{*}The data is presented as the weighted average.

[‡] Used short-case accrual Relative Risk estimates for 'all ages' and applied to each age sub-group which resulted in the calculation for NNS. The RR is reflective of a median screening period of 7 years with a median follow-up of 23 years. See footnote in Table 1 of Guideline document for further explanations.

¹The data is used to approximate a cohort of women entering the screening program. Although assumed, but not confirmed, the 'initial screen' in the CPAC report is the first screen documented in the database, and may not necessarily be the first 'true' screen of a woman. This is especially true for data originating from Alberta.

²Calculation: Initial screening cycle + 2 (subsequent screening cycle).