

## PROGRAM OF ORGANIZED BREAST CANCER SCREENING IN THE PERIOD FROM 2013 TO 2024

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**Background:** Breast cancer is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality from malignant diseases in the female population worldwide, as well as in Serbia, and represents one of the most significant public health problems. Since 2013, when organized breast cancer screening in the Republic of Serbia started, the number of women suffering from breast cancer in Serbia has increased by 38.3%. In the period 2013-2022, the number of women who died from this disease decreased by 16.9%. The Institute of Public Health of Serbia assumed control of the organization of the mobile mammography service in 2018 and thus significantly contributed to the organized screening program.

**Methods and Objectives:** The aim of this study is to present the results from 6 cycles of organized breast cancer screening program (2013-2024) and mobile mammography service in 2018-2024. The sources of the data were reports from primary health care centers and databases from mobile mammography unite. The Clinical Path form was used to collect data from the participants in the screening in the mobile mammography unite.

**Results:** In the period from 2013 to June 2024, in the organized screening program a total of 333.505 women were examined and histopathologically confirmed 1149 cancers. In the period from 2018 to August 2024 in the mobile mammography unit 55.246 women were examined, 2826 women had a positive result (according to BIRADS classification) and were referred for additional diagnostic procedures. A total of 109 cancers were histopathologically confirmed.

**Conclusions:** Activities from organized screening and mobile mammography unit enable early detection and treatment of breast cancer in women who have no symptoms. By treating breast cancer costs are reduced, the prognosis of the outcome of this disease is better, and the quality of life of affected women is preserved.

**Keywords:** organized breast cancer screening, mobile mammography unit