

# How knowledgeable are ObGyns about dense breasts?

A total of 177 health care providers (127 ObGyns) were surveyed on their knowledge of breast density and comfort level discussing the topic with patients. The study was conducted in order to assess a web-based educational intervention's ability to affect posttest knowledge; however, the pretest results provide a glimpse of overall ObGyn knowledge about the important topic of breast density. If a woman is identified as having dense breasts on mammography, she often receives a state-mandated letter informing her to discuss the information with her health care clinician. Patients often ask their ObGyns, who must be prepared for such conversations.

**57%** of ObGyns knew that women with extremely dense breasts have four-to-six-fold greater breast cancer risk than women with fatty breasts

**30%** of ObGyns knew that breast cancer risk increases with increasing amount of glandular tissue

**6%** of ObGyns knew that 3D/tomosynthesis does not improve cancer detection in extremely dense breasts over 2D mammography

**71%** of ObGyns would consider supplemental ultrasonography after mammography in an average-risk 50-year old with dense breasts

Overall average pretest score: **41%**

