

OCTOBER 2003—CAD for Mammography Introduced: Computer Aided Detection (a.k.a. "CAD") augments traditional mammography in the diagnosis of Breast Cancer. Studies show the use of CAD substantially lowers the false positive rate in screening mammography, and can improve the proportion of malignancies detected at an earlier stage (73% to 78%) with an overall increase in the cancer detection rate of 19.5%.

Radiology Imaging Associates is proud to be the first, and presently the only practice in southern Maryland to offer CAD as one of the latest innovations in computer software applications and establish CAD as an integral tool in all of our screening mammography programs. The steps to diagnosis with CAD include:

1. All screening mammogram films are viewed first by a radiologist conventionally.
2. The films are then processed through a sophisticated computer for what is essentially a ***second reading***. The computer is particularly sensitive to detecting micro-calcifications that may be difficult to see by the human eye.
3. The radiologist views a TV monitor to see if the computer may have highlighted any areas on the mammogram film associated with cancer.
4. The CAD system is designed to assist radiologists to reduce the number of false negative readings.

Radiology Imaging Associates was the first to establish a dedicated diagnostic center for women in southern Maryland in 1981. The commitment continues...serving southern Prince Georges, Charles and Calvert counties with a comprehensive array of diagnostic programs centered on the unique needs of women in the community. Our services include:

- FDA certified, ACR Accredited Screening and Diagnostic Mammography now with *Computer Aided Detection (CAD)*
- Digital Stereotactic Breast Biopsy
- Galactography

- Breast ultrasound including sonographically guided aspiration/biopsy procedures
- 4-Dimensional obstetrical and gynecological ultrasound
- MRI and P.E.T. imaging of the Breast
- DEXA bone densitometry of the hip and spine

Any technological innovation in medicine that can enhance diagnostic accuracy must be given the most serious consideration. We believe the use of CAD sets forth a new standard of care for film mammography.

Freer, T., Ulissey, M. (2001, August). Screening Mammography with Computer-aided Detection: Prospective Study of 12,860 Patients in a Community Breast Center. *Radiology*. 220: 781-786