



Wayne Memorial Hospital

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Wayne Memorial Hospital now offering the FDA-approved Automated Breast Ultrasound System to Enhance the Entire Breast Care Pathway, from Supplemental Screening and Beyond

ABUS clinically proven to increase cancer detection by 35.7%ⁱ; Recently Installed at Wayne Memorial Hospital

Jesup, GA – Wayne Memorial Hospital announced today that they are on the forefront of breast care by now offering the latest Invenia™ ABUS (Automated Breast Ultrasound System), approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for breast cancer screening as an adjunct to mammography for patients with dense breast tissue.

“We are excited to add the Invenia ABUS system from GE HealthCare to our comprehensive breast cancer screening program. By offering ABUS in addition to mammography for our patients with dense breast tissue, we anticipate improving detection for small cancers that cannot be seen on a mammogram alone in these women. We believe ABUS will become an integral part of our practice for the detection of breast cancer,” said Joe Ierardi, CEO of Wayne Memorial.

Dense breast tissue has been found to be the most common risk factor for the development of cancerⁱⁱ and also makes cancer more difficult to detect using mammography, according to multiple large studies^{iii-iv}. With higher-density breast tissue, the accuracy of mammograms goes down.ⁱⁱⁱ The difficulty radiologists experience when reading mammograms is that both dense tissue and cancer appear white on a mammogram. With ABUS, suspicious masses appear black against the white dense tissue and can be easily detected.^{i,v}

In September 2024, a new U.S. FDA breast density reporting standard went into effect requiring all mammogram facilities to inform women with important information about breast density.^{vi} Providers may offer supplemental imaging as appropriate to help find cancers hiding in dense breast tissue.

“Mammography is the gold standard for the detection of breast cancer; however, it doesn’t work equally well in all women, particularly those with dense breast tissue,” added Melanie Knox, Director of Radiology. “Designed and built specifically for screening, research shows that—as an adjunct to mammography--ABUS technology has the potential to find 35.7 percent additional cancers that would not have been found with mammography alone.”ⁱ

As the first FDA-approved ultrasound supplemental screening technology specifically designed for detecting cancer in dense breast tissue, Invenia ABUS can help enhance the consistency, reproducibility, and sensitivity of breast ultrasound. Its significant technological improvements help to produce 3D volume images of the entire breast tissue rapidly.

Furthermore, ABUS is an innovative technology that is gaining high patient acceptance^{vii} due to its non-invasive nature and clinical impact. This ultrasound system includes unique features designed with patient comfort in mind, such as the new Reverse Curve™ transducer, which follows the natural contour of the breast and offers adjustable compression levels for personalized comfort during the exam.

Beyond screening, the Invenia ABUS supports the entire breast care pathway, from initial detection to diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up. Its advanced imaging capability provides clinicians with the tools needed to make informed decisions throughout the patient's journey, ultimately improving outcomes and ensuring comprehensive care for women with dense breasts.

Loretta Woods, RT(R)(M)(BD), Lead Mammogram Tech at Wayne Memorial, recommends that women get regular mammograms as suggested by their doctor, and if they have been informed that they have dense breast tissue, they should talk to their doctor or radiologist about their specific risk and additional supplemental imaging that might be appropriate.

Wayne Memorial Hospital, whose mission is to provide high quality health care services to all patients, built a state-of-the-art facility in 2007. It is the third largest employer in Wayne County with 500 employees, 84 beds and is a three-time winner of the Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals Small Hospital of the Year Award.

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ⁱ FDA PMA P110006 summary of safety and effectiveness.

ⁱⁱ Engmann NJ, et al, JAMA Oncol. 2017;3(9):1228-1236.

ⁱⁱⁱ Mandelson et al. J Natl Cancer Inst 2000; 92:1081-1087

^{iv} Tagliafico, Massimo Calabrese et al, Journal of Clinical Oncology 2016 34:16, 1882-1888.

^v Wilczek B, European Journal of Radiology (DOI: 10.1016/j.ejrad.2016.06.004).

^{vi} Mammography Quality Standards Act. (2023, March 10). Federal Register. <https://federalregister.gov/d/2023-04550>.

^{vii} Shah et.al. Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography DOI: 10.1177/8756479313476920 2013.