CASE STUDY

Modelling the cost effectiveness and capacity impact of supplemental screening for women with dense breasts

The challenge

Breast density is often poorly recorded and not recognised as an independent driver of breast cancer risk. Our client needed to understand whether supplemental screening for women with dense breasts was cost-effective, and associated budgetary and capacity limitations.

Our approach

Navigated significant heterogeneity and data gaps within current literature to inform an evidence base for a model, collecting data through mixed methods, including a systematic review and a discrete choice experiment.

We developed two core models:

- **Cost-effectiveness model:** estimated the combined impact of initial diagnostic accuracy and subsequent treatment decisions.
- **Capacity model:** investigated upfront investment requirements needed to enable screening to be implemented.

How we made a difference

- Our findings were used to generate communication materials to elevate the discussion on the need for screening in women with dense breasts globally.
- This included peer-reviewed manuscripts, conference presentations, and global policymaker and stakeholder engagement materials.

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