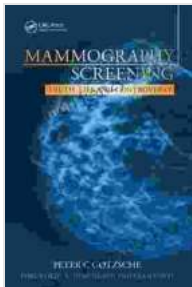


Mammography Screening: Truth, Lies, and Controversy

Mammography screening has been a controversial topic for decades. Proponents of mammography screening argue that it can save lives by detecting breast cancer early, when it is most treatable. Opponents of mammography screening argue that it does more harm than good, by leading to unnecessary biopsies, surgeries, and treatments that can have serious side effects.



Mammography Screening: Truth, Lies and Controversy

by Robert Kopf

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 5448 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 402 pages



The truth about mammography screening lies somewhere in between these two extremes. Mammography screening can be a valuable tool for detecting breast cancer, but it is not without risks. It is important for women to be aware of both the benefits and risks of mammography screening so that they can make informed decisions about their breast health.

Benefits of Mammography Screening

Mammography screening has been shown to reduce the risk of dying from breast cancer by about 20%. This is because mammography screening can detect breast cancer early, when it is most treatable. Early detection of breast cancer can lead to less invasive treatment options and a better chance of survival.

In addition to reducing the risk of dying from breast cancer, mammography screening can also help to reduce the risk of developing advanced breast cancer. Advanced breast cancer is more difficult to treat and is more likely to be fatal.

Risks of Mammography Screening

Mammography screening is not without risks. The most common risk of mammography screening is false positives. A false positive occurs when a mammogram suggests that a woman has breast cancer when she does not. False positives can lead to unnecessary biopsies, surgeries, and treatments that can have serious side effects.

Another risk of mammography screening is overdiagnosis. Overdiagnosis occurs when a mammogram detects a breast cancer that would never have become a problem if it had not been detected. Overdiagnosis can lead to unnecessary treatment that can have serious side effects.

The risks of mammography screening are small, but they are important to be aware of. Women should talk to their doctor about the benefits and risks of mammography screening before deciding whether or not to get a mammogram.

Controversy Surrounding Mammography Screening

The controversy surrounding mammography screening stems from the fact that the benefits of mammography screening are relatively small, while the risks are not. This has led some experts to question whether or not mammography screening is actually beneficial.

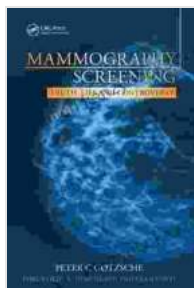
In 2015, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) issued new guidelines for mammography screening. The USPSTF recommended that women aged 50 to 74 should get a mammogram every two years. This is a change from the previous recommendation of getting a mammogram every year. The USPSTF also recommended that women aged 40 to 49 should get a mammogram if they have a family history of breast cancer or other risk factors.

The USPSTF's new guidelines were met with controversy. Some experts argued that the USPSTF was downplaying the benefits of mammography screening and that the new guidelines would lead to more women dying from breast cancer. Other experts argued that the USPSTF was being too cautious and that the new guidelines would prevent unnecessary biopsies, surgeries, and treatments.

The controversy surrounding mammography screening is likely to continue. It is important for women to be aware of both the benefits and risks of mammography screening so that they can make informed decisions about their breast health.

Mammography screening is a complex issue with both benefits and risks. It is important for women to be aware of both the benefits and risks of mammography screening so that they can make informed decisions about their breast health. Women should talk to their doctor about the benefits

and risks of mammography screening before deciding whether or not to get a mammogram.



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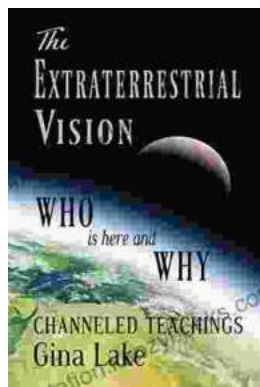
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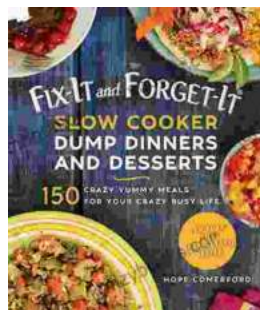
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