American Cancer Society Guidelines for the Early Detection of Breast Cancer

- Women age 40 and older should have a screening mammogram every year, and should continue to do so for as long as they are in good health.

- Women in their 20s and 30s should have a clinical breast exam (CBE) as part of a periodic (regular) health exam by a health professional, preferably every 3 years. After age 40, women should have a breast exam by a health professional every year.

- Mammograms for older women (over age 65) should be based on the woman’s health and whether or not she has other serious illnesses. Age alone should not be the reason to stop having regular mammograms.

- Women at increased risk (due to family history, past breast cancer, etc.) should talk with their doctor about the benefits and limitations of starting mammograms when they are younger, having additional tests (such as ultrasound or MRI), or having more frequent exams.

For more information please contact the Radiology Department at 712-546-3394.
Breast cancer has touched all of us, whether a family member or friend. In the fight against cancer, you need to be diligent in your screening efforts. In addition for breast self exams, women over 40 should receive an annual mammogram, earlier if you have a family history.

For some, this exam is not being performed due to lack of financial resources. Financial assistance is now available to help area residents receive diagnostic mammography screening as a part of their annual health exam.

Thanks to generous donations by local individuals and civic organizations, a program funded by the Floyd Valley Hospital Foundation is available to offer financial assistance to patients who meet the following criteria:

- Women age 40 or older who do not have insurance or their insurance does not cover these screening services.
- Women that have not received a mammography screening in the prior 12-month period.
- Women with a household income at or below 250% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines.
- Denials from all public assistance programs.
- Applicants must complete the one-page application with proof of income.

*Floyd Valley Hospital uses these criteria as guidelines and reserves the right to vary from these guidelines at the discretion of the Administrator or when funds are no longer available.

**Procedure**

- Applications for financial assistance are available in the Business Office and in the Radiology office to all patients requesting assistance. The application needs to be completed in its entirety and returned to the Business Office prior to consideration.
- While every effort will be made to determine the amount of assistance available as quickly as possible, determining eligibility of the applicant will be withheld until all information is provided and can be verified. While this process is underway, it is recommended that the patient wait to schedule the screening until after the application has been approved. If a screening is scheduled and the application is denied approval, the patient will be responsible for full payment.
- Once an approval has been determined, the applicant will be notified in writing of their eligibility status and the Business Office will denote the Breast Cancer Assistance Fund in their patient account. All future screenings will require a new application for assistance.
- Screening fees, based on the current Medicare fee schedule amount, will be paid by the Foundation.

In addition to the completed application, please be prepared to share the following:

**Employed persons: (2 or more of the following)**
1) a copy of your most recent tax return,
2) copies of payroll check stubs,
3) denials from all public assistance programs, and/or
4) certified statement of income from your employer(s) for the past 12 months.

**Self-employed persons: (2 or more of the following)**
1) a copy of your most recent tax return,
2) copies of payroll check stubs,
3) a financial statement showing liabilities and net worth, and/or
4) a statement of earnings and expenses for the most recent 12 months.

**Unemployed persons: (2 or more of the following)**
1) a copy of the most recent tax return,
2) denials from all public assistance programs,
3) proof of income from past employment is unemployed less than 12 months, and/or
4) proof of income from unemployment compensation.

**Disabled persons:**
1) denials from all public assistance programs,
2) proof of Social Security or any other type of disability income, and
3) proof of income from past employment if disabled less than 12 months.

**College students:**
1) a copy of the most recent tax return,
2) denials from all public assistance programs,
3) proof of income from student grants and stipends,
4) proof of income from any employment, husband or wife, while a student, including summer employment, and
5) verification of cash balances shall consist of copies of bank statements.