

QUICK REFERENCE

# Compression

Volpara Analytics Technologist Training

### Notes

- Compression is critical to image quality.
- Volpara measures and displays compression in pressure (kPa).
- Pressure (kPa) depends on
  - Amount of applied force (dN, N, or lb).
  - The contact area between the breast and the paddle.
- Target compression is found to increase cancer detection.<sup>1</sup>

### Breast Size, Force, and Pressure: Target Range\*

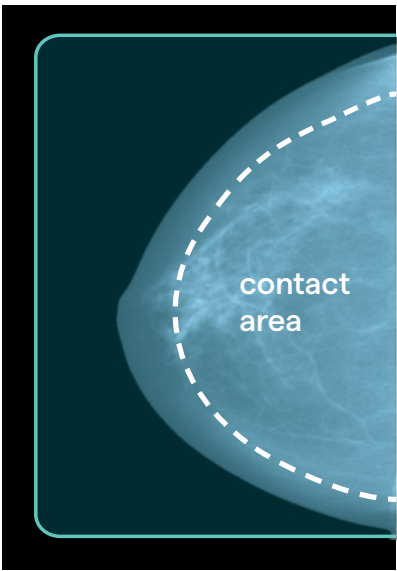
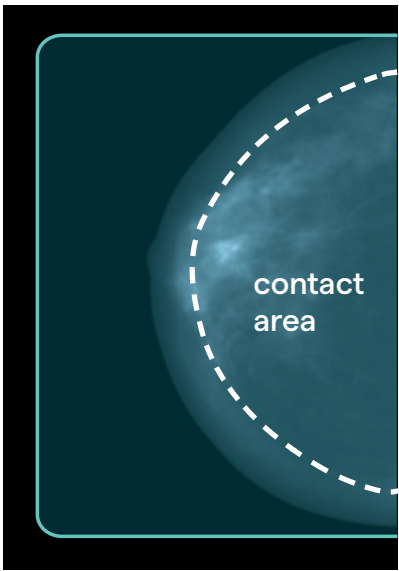
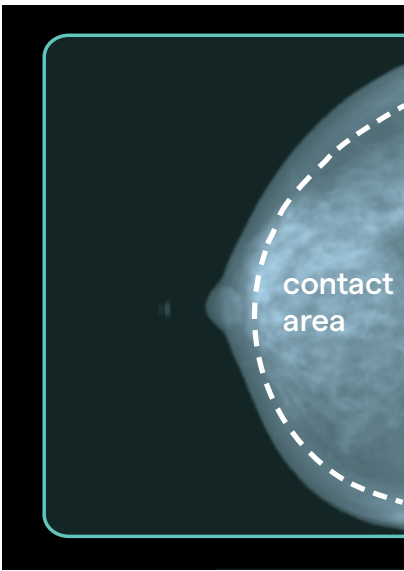
Pressure = Force ÷ Area

**Breast size reference:**

Small breast approx.  
0–500 cm<sup>3</sup>

Medium breast approx.  
500–1200 cm<sup>3</sup>

Large breast above approx.  
1200 cm<sup>3</sup>



Applied Force	7–16 lb. (31–73 N)	14–30 lb. (63–135 N)	17–37 lb. (77–165 N)
*Approx. values			
Pressure Result	7–15 kPa	7–15 kPa	7–15 kPa

### Performance and Benchmarks

Weighted 60/40 in favor of positioning over compression performance.

A score of 4 would mean 100% of images were Perfect or Good and in the target compression range.

Focus	Below 1.62
Okay	1.62–2.04
Global Median	2.05–2.26
Excellent	2.27 or more



### Contact

Questions or issues, please contact [support@volparahealth.com](mailto:support@volparahealth.com)

