

QUICK REFERENCE

Top 5 positioning challenges in mammography

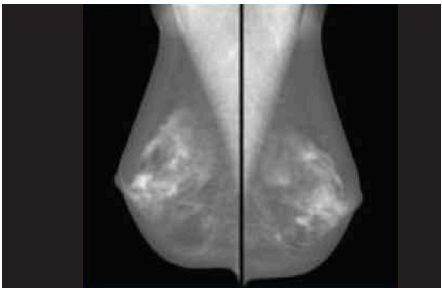
Volpara Analytics Technologist Training

Most common positioning issues for the MLO view

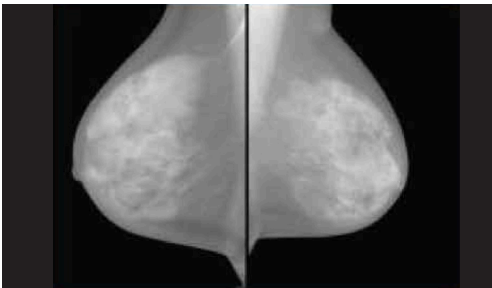
① Adequate pectoral muscle

The adequate pectoral metric is achieved when the pectoral muscle angle, length, and width are captured adequately. If the pectoral muscle is not captured adequately, the result is either a narrow pectoral muscle, which indicates the potential for missed

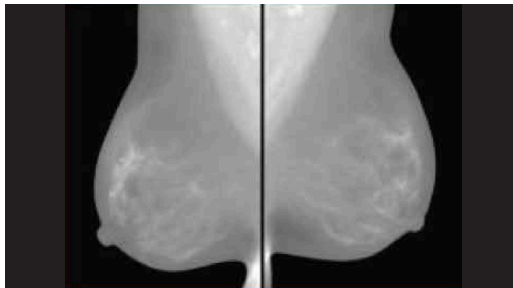
posterior breast tissue; or, conversely, a pectoral muscle with a thick axillary region, which indicates the potential for uneven compression. The thick axillary region can result in under-compression of the central and anterior breast tissue, which causes sag or droop.



Adequate pectoral muscle



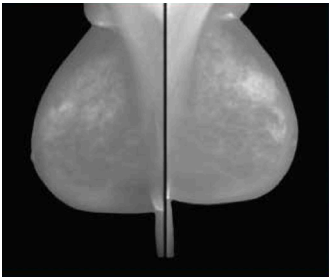
Metric not met: narrow angle



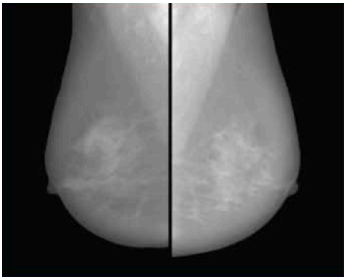
Metric not met: wide angle

② Inframammary fold (IMF)

Visible IMF is achieved when the inframammary fold is visualized and open. If the IMF is not well demonstrated, there is a greater likelihood that posterior-inferior breast tissue will be omitted from view.



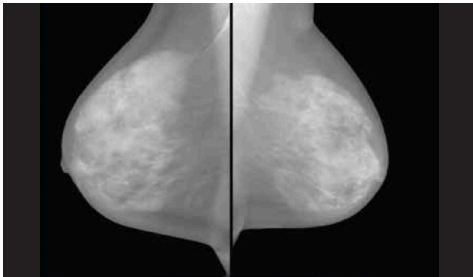
Metric not met: IMF skin fold



Metric not met: IMF missing

③ Pectoralis muscle to posterior nipple line (PNL)

An adequate pec to PNL metric is achieved when the pectoral muscle extends inferiorly to at least 1 cm above the PNL.

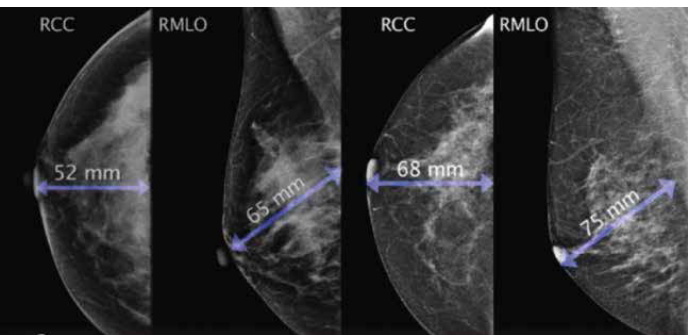


Metric not met: pec to PNL

Most common positioning issues for the CC view

④ PNL length

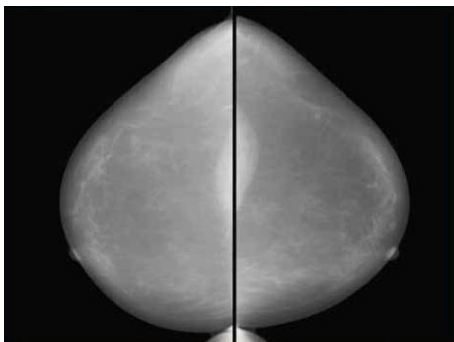
Adequate PNL length is achieved when the MLO PNL length minus the CC PNL length is no more than 1 cm. A shorter CC PNL length indicates that the posterior tissue may not be optimally visualized.



(L) CC PNL not met and (r) CC PNL met.

⑤ Nipple excessive exaggeration

The CC should be acquired with the nipple centrally located to the breast, without medial or lateral exaggeration. This maximizes visualization of both medial and lateral tissue. Obtaining the CC with exaggeration in one direction or the other potentially omits medial tissue which is critical, as the MLO may not capture medial tissue well.



CC: nipple excessive exaggeration for both left and right images.

Contact

Questions or issues, please contact support@volparahealth.com

