

Delray Forum

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TO YOUR HEALTH

October 12, 2011

Campaign focuses on early detection of breast cancer

In an effort to fight breast cancer by encouraging early detection, the Delray Medical Center has launched its second annual Love the Girls campaign, a program focused on mammography and bone density screening.

"This is preventive health medicine," said Theresa Griffith, imaging director at the Delray Medical Center. "We're doing bone density screening and mammography. One in eight women will develop breast cancer some-

time in their lifetime. According to the National Cancer Institute, that's 12 percent of all women. There are just so many factors, even if you don't have children."

Insurance companies cover one mammogram a year for women over age 40.

The average age that women experience menopause is 51. After that, their bodies produce less estrogen.

"With that drop in estrogen associated with menopause, women

need to get their bone density checkup," Griffith said. "We offer a free bone density check along with the mammography procedure. ... One of every two women over age 50 will break a bone because of osteoporosis."

In conjunction with Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Delray Outpatient Imaging Center, located in the Palm Coast Plaza at 5130 Linton Blvd., will be conducting mammograms and bone density screenings through Oct.

31. All Tenet Hospitals and MidTown Imaging Centers are providing the mammograms and screenings. That includes Delray Medical Center, Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center, Good Samaritan Medical Center, St. Mary's Medical Center and West Boca Medical Center.

For more information or to schedule a mammogram, call the Delray Medical Center Scheduling Department at 561-637-5315.