

Mayo Clinic Minute: Mammograms, vaccines and timing

Video	Audio
	Starting at age 40, women are encouraged to get their annual mammogram. The screening can detect irregularities in the breast, including swollen lymph nodes.
	Swollen lymph nodes may indicate breast cancer — or they may mean a vaccine is working.
Kristin Robinson, M.D. Radiology — Diagnostic Mayo Clinic	"Vaccines affect the immune system. The whole idea is that they're generating an immune response so that your body can later recognize a certain virus or disease, and fight it in the future"
	Lymph nodes are part of the body's immune system.
	"The vaccine is working on the immune system. Any vaccine really can cause lymph node swelling."
	Is the swelling from the vaccine or a potential cancer? The solution, says Dr. Robinson, is timing.
	"We would recommend having your mammogram and then have your vaccine. That way, we avoid any confusion or any possibility if the lymph nodes do swell, we wouldn't see that then on the mammogram."
	If the timing doesn't work, and you need to get your immunizations first, Dr. Robinson says it's OK, but ...
6	"... for your mammogram, don't delay. Don't put it off. And just let your technician know what you've had done and when."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm DeeDee Stiepan.