Each year Breast Centers are required to perform an audit of their performance as it relates to their screening mammography program. This is a requirement of the Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA). The above diagram provides a summary of Valley Breast Center’s performance for the 2015 calendar year.

The largest circle represents the number of screening mammograms, 16,794 that were performed at our Breast Center in Renton. The next circle represents our callback rate or the number of patients that we called back to the Center to have additional imaging performed. Valley’s callback rate is 9.82% and the national benchmark is 9.9%. From there the next circle “314 – Callbacks requiring biopsy” is the number of patients who were called back and now the Radiologist is recommending that the patient has a biopsy of the area of concern. Finally the smallest circle is the number of these patients whose biopsy resulted in a diagnosis of breast cancer.

The goal of screening mammography is to find breast cancer at its smallest size and most treatable stage. The minimal breast cancers, smaller than 10 mm in size, which were detected at Valley were 68.35% with the national benchmark being 52.5%.

Finally the Cancer Detection Rate is the number of breast cancers that are diagnosed as a result of a screening mammogram. At Valley the Cancer Detection Rate is 4.7 which means that for every 1,000 women we screen we detected 4.7 new breast cancers. This is just slightly more than the national rate of 4.3.