

# Breast cancer

Early Detection – the key to effective treatment and better survival

Are you anxious about breast cancer?

Does a relative have breast cancer?



**BCtect**<sup>®</sup>

BCtect<sup>®</sup> is a new blood test developed to help detect breast cancer. The test is simple and fast, requiring only a blood sample.

## About Breast Cancer

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer amongst women. Approximately 1 in 11 women will develop breast cancer in their lifetime.

*Early diagnosis of breast cancer gives the physician more treatment options which may mean less surgery and less side effects. In addition, early diagnosis is key to increasing the chances of surviving breast cancer.*

## What is BCtect®?

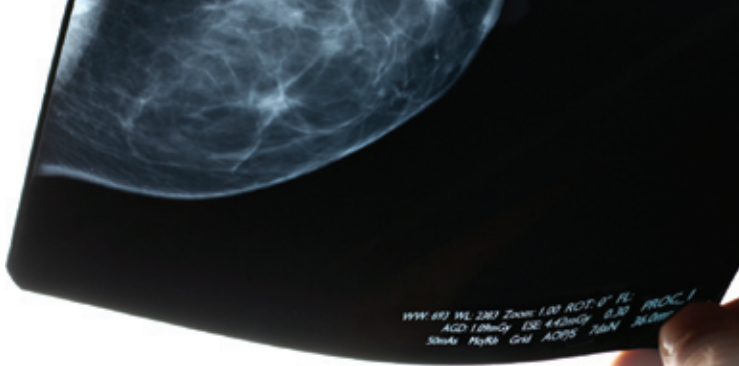
BCtect® is a new blood test developed to help detect breast cancer. The test is simple and fast, requiring only a blood sample. It should be used together with other clinical evidence to confirm the presence or absence of breast cancer.

To ensure a robust and reliable clinical test, the BCtect® test has been developed and validated in a multi-centre study including samples from hospitals across Europe. BCtect® is now CE-marked, which means the test has been approved for routine use throughout Europe.

## How does BCtect® work?

BCtect® uses state-of-the-art technology to analyse blood samples for characteristic changes in the activity of selected genes. If these characteristic changes for breast cancer are found, your physician will arrange further investigations.

BCtect® is not a genetic test that maps your genes, instead it examines the activity of a selected set of important genes.



## Why have this test?

Today, the most common method of diagnosing breast cancer is mammography, however, this method is not optimal in detecting breast cancer in women with dense breasts. Dense breast tissue is fibrous tissue seen as a white density on a mammogram. Densities can reduce the clarity of a mammogram which may prevent a cancer being detected. Breast density cannot be felt, it must be determined from mammography. Certain tumour types are also poorly detected by mammography. It is also difficult to detect very small tumours with the use of mammography alone.

BCtect<sup>®</sup> is useful in cases where mammography provides an inconclusive result or where mammography alone does not provide enough reassurance.

If you have a family history of breast cancer, BCtect<sup>®</sup> can be used as an additional test to improve the detection of breast cancer.

## What are the benefits to you?

- ◆ BCtect<sup>®</sup> has been developed to detect early stage breast cancer. Early detection improves overall survival
- ◆ Early detection may increase the options available for treatment
- ◆ BCtect<sup>®</sup> can detect types of breast cancer which are easily missed by mammography
- ◆ BCtect<sup>®</sup> is useful in pre-menopausal women and women with high breast density, where mammography is less effective
- ◆ BCtect<sup>®</sup> can be used alongside mammography in women who have normal mammograms but are particularly anxious about having breast cancer
- ◆ Only a simple blood sample is required from you

*“If you decide to take this test, your blood sample will be sent to our centralized certified laboratory in Belgium for analysis. Your physician will receive the result typically within 7 working days after your blood sample has been received by the laboratory.”*

**For more information about Breast cancer:**

[www.europadonna.org](http://www.europadonna.org)

[www.ecco-org.eu](http://www.ecco-org.eu)

**For more information about BCtect®:**

Ask your physician or visit our web site: [www.diagenic.com](http://www.diagenic.com)

**Customer service:**

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