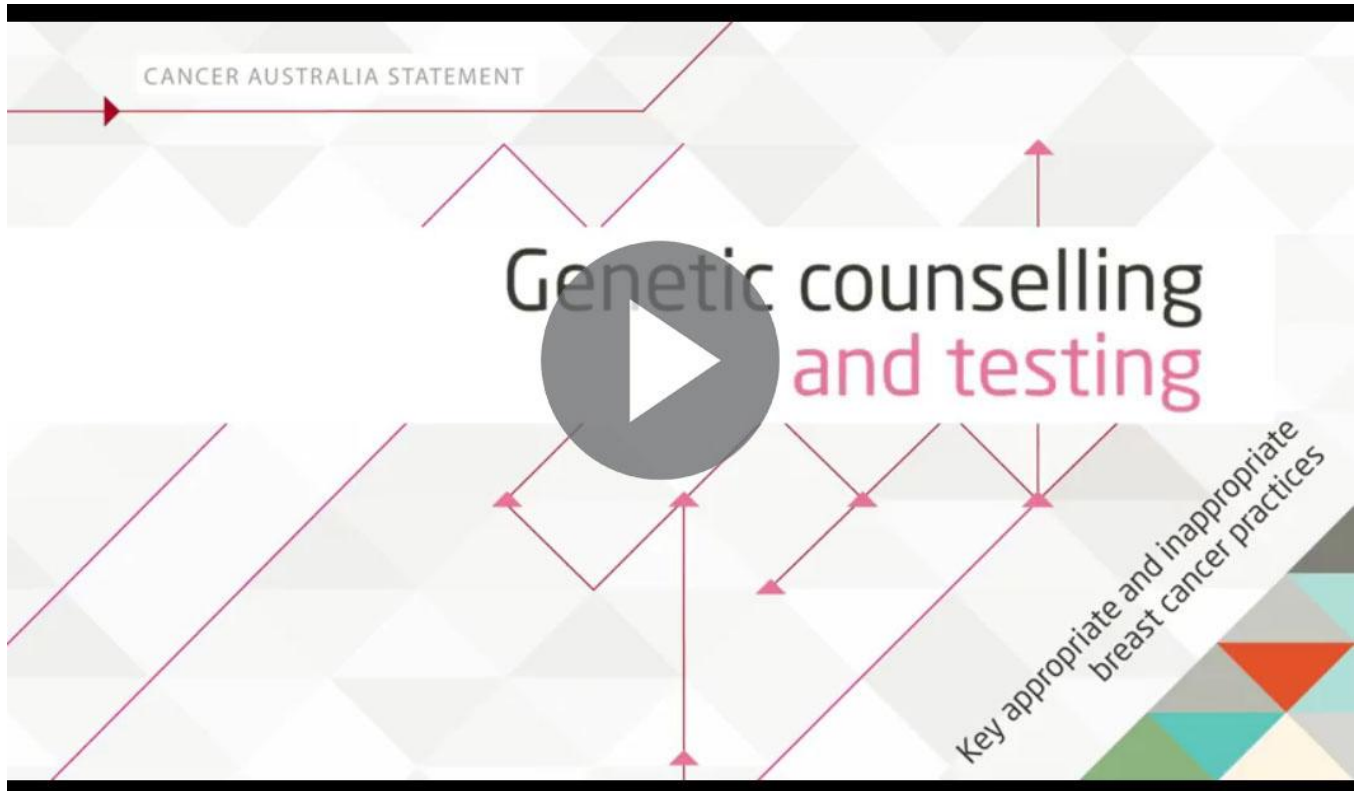


**Appropriate** to offer genetic counselling to women with a high familial risk at or around the time that they are diagnosed with breast cancer, with a view to genetic testing to inform decision-making about treatment.

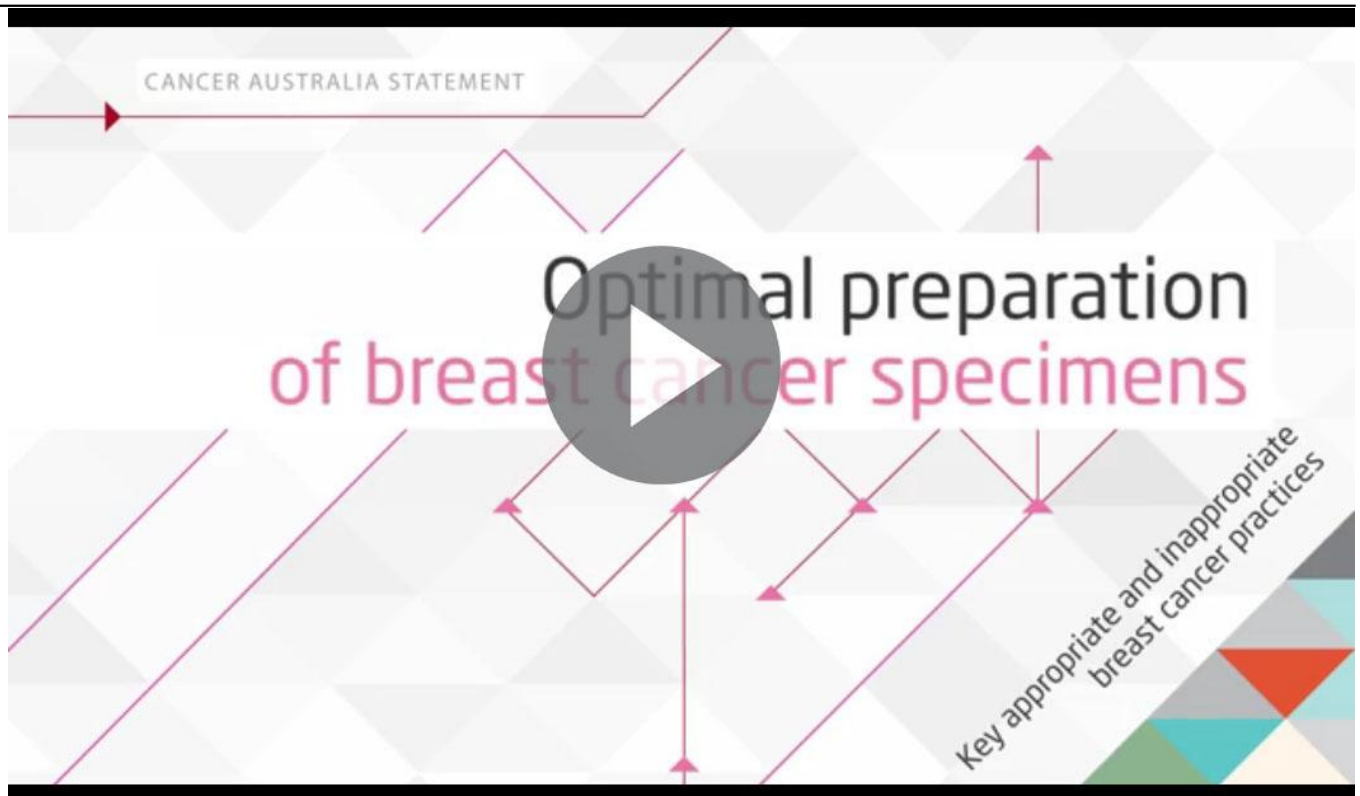


[1] [Consumer Information](#) [2]

Genetic testing  
familial risk  
family history

view

**Appropriate** to ensure optimal fixation of breast cancer specimens for accurate pathological examination and biomarker assessment.



[3] [Consumer Information](#) [4]

Optimal fixation  
pathology  
biomarker

view

**Appropriate** to consider and discuss fertility and family planning with premenopausal women before they undergo breast cancer treatment.



[5] [Consumer Information](#) [6]

Fertility  
family planning

view

**Appropriate** to offer a choice of either breast conserving surgery followed by radiotherapy, or a mastectomy to patients diagnosed with early breast cancer, as these treatments are equally effective in terms of survival.



[7]

[Consumer Information](#) [8]

breast conserving surgery  
mastectomy

view

**Appropriate** to offer a shorter, more intense course of radiotherapy (hypofractionated radiotherapy) as an alternative to conventional radiotherapy for patients with early breast cancer who:

- are aged 50 years and over;
- have a cancer at an early pathological stage (T1-2, N0, M0); and
- have undergone breast conserving surgery with clear surgical margins.



[9]

[Consumer Information](#) [10]

hypofractionated radiotherapy  
treatment

view

**Appropriate** to offer patients with early breast cancer the opportunity for their follow-up care to be shared between a primary care physician and a specialist, to provide more accessible, whole-person care.



[11]

[Consumer Information](#) [12]

Shared follow-up care  
shared care  
follow-up

view

**Appropriate** to offer palliative care early in the management of patients with symptomatic, metastatic breast cancer to improve symptom control and quality of life.



[13]

[Consumer Information](#) [14]

palliative care  
symptom control  
quality of life

view

**Appropriate** to consider the pre-operative use of chemotherapy or hormonal therapy (systemic, neoadjuvant therapy) informed by hormone and HER2 receptor status, for all patients where these therapies are clinically indicated.



[15]

[Consumer Information](#) [16]

Neoadjuvant therapy  
hormonal therapy  
HER2 receptor status

view

**Not appropriate** to confirm or exclude a diagnosis of breast cancer without undertaking the triple test, which involves:

- taking a patient history and clinical breast examination;
- imaging tests (mammogram and/or ultrasound); and
- biopsy to remove cells or tissue for examination.





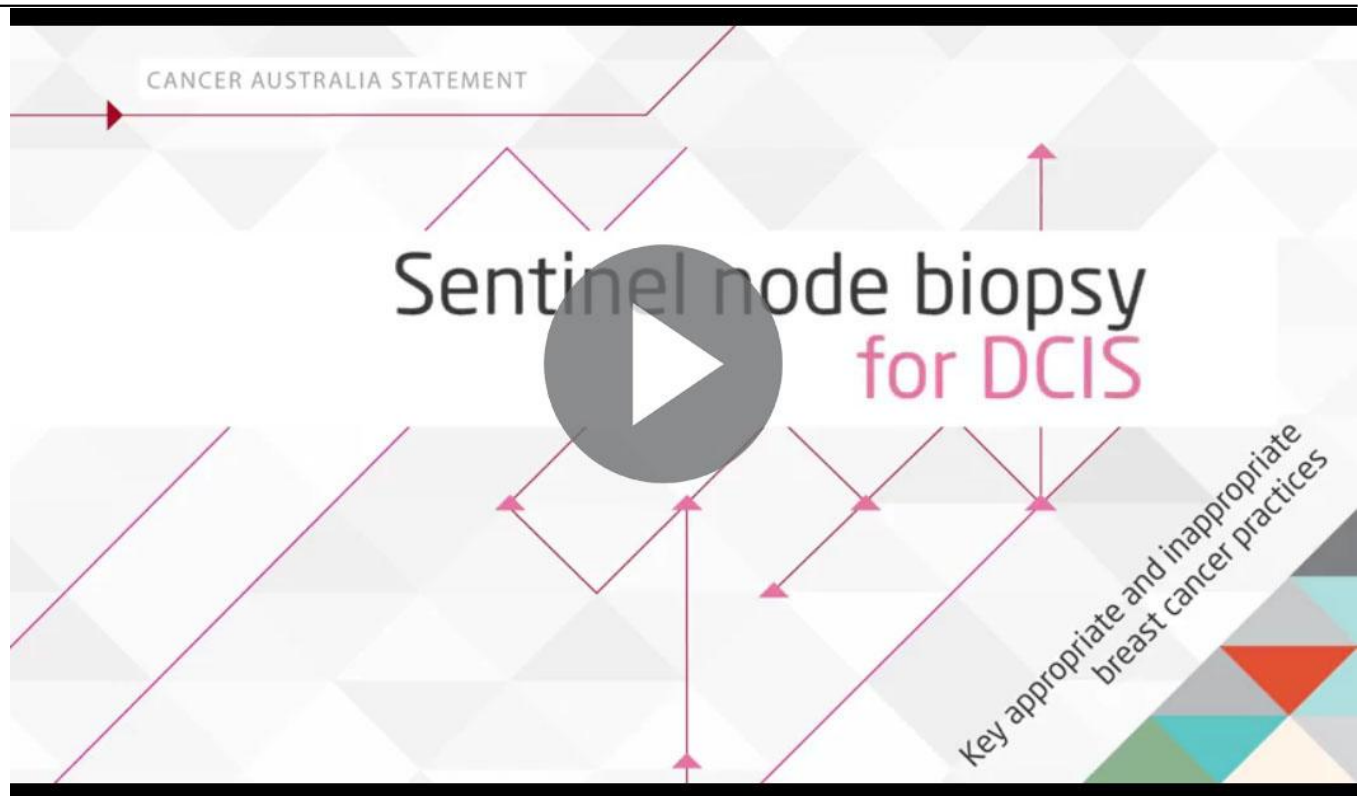
[17]

[Consumer Information](#) [18]

Triple test  
investigating  
breast symptoms

view

**Not appropriate** to offer a sentinel node biopsy to patients diagnosed with DCIS (ductal carcinoma in situ) having breast conserving surgery, unless clinically indicated.



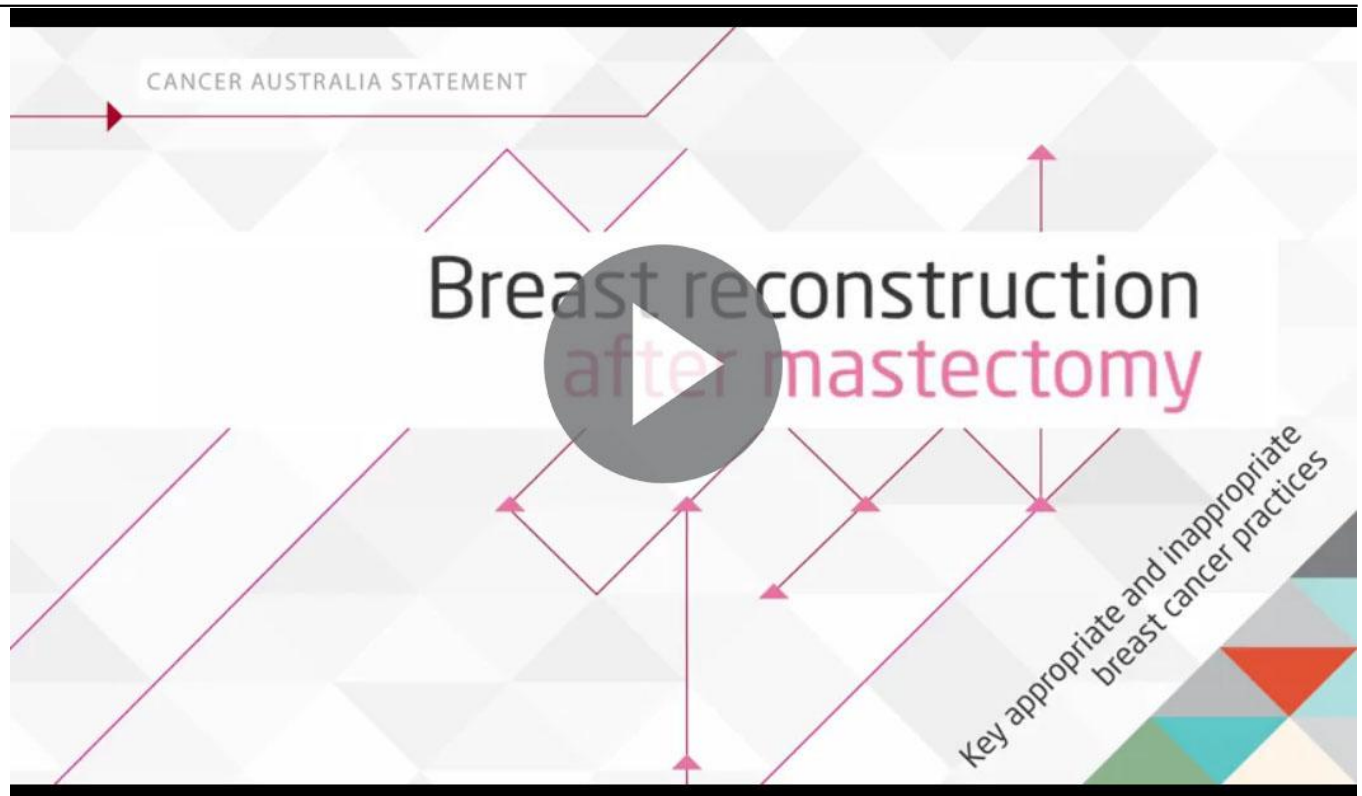
[19]

[Consumer Information](#) [20]

Sentinel node biopsy  
DCIS  
breast conserving surgery

view

**Not appropriate** to perform a mastectomy without first discussing with the patient the options of immediate or delayed breast reconstruction.



[21]

[Consumer Information](#) [22]

mastectomy  
breast reconstruction

view

**Not appropriate** to perform intensive testing (full blood count, biochemistry or tumour markers) or imaging (chest X-ray, PET, CT and radionuclide bone scans) as part of standard follow-up of patients who have been treated for early breast cancer and who are not experiencing symptoms.



[23]

[Consumer Information](#) [24]

intensive follow-up testing  
follow-up care

view

**Source URL:** <https://thestatement.canceraustralia.gov.au/the-practices>

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- [2] <https://canceraustralia.gov.au/publications-and-resources/cancer-australia-publications/consumer-information-sheet-1-genetic-counselling-and-testing>
- [3] <https://thestatement.canceraustralia.gov.au/the-practices/practice-2>
- [4] <https://canceraustralia.gov.au/publications-and-resources/cancer-australia-publications/consumer-information-sheet-2-optimal-fixation-breast-cancer-specimens>
- [5] <https://thestatement.canceraustralia.gov.au/the-practices/practice-3>
- [6] <https://canceraustralia.gov.au/publications-and-resources/cancer-australia-publications/consumer-information-sheet-3-fertility-and-family-planning-breast-cancer-treatment>
- [7] <https://thestatement.canceraustralia.gov.au/the-practices/practice-4>
- [8] <https://canceraustralia.gov.au/publications-and-resources/cancer-australia-publications/consumer-information-sheet-4-surgical-options-women-early-breast-cancer>
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sheet-7-early-introduction-palliative-care

[15] <https://thestatement.canceraustralia.gov.au/the-practices/practice-8>

[16] <https://canceraustralia.gov.au/publications-and-resources/cancer-australia-publications/consumer-information-sheet-8-pre-operative-use-chemotherapy-or-hormonal-therapy>

[17] <https://thestatement.canceraustralia.gov.au/the-practices/practice-9>

[18] <https://canceraustralia.gov.au/publications-and-resources/cancer-australia-publications/consumer-information-sheet-9-investigating-new-breast-symptom-undertaking-triple-test>

[19] <https://thestatement.canceraustralia.gov.au/the-practices/practice-10>

[20] <https://canceraustralia.gov.au/publications-and-resources/cancer-australia-publications/consumer-information-sheet-10-sentinel-node-biopsy-dcis>

[21] <https://thestatement.canceraustralia.gov.au/the-practices/practice-11>

[22] <https://canceraustralia.gov.au/publications-and-resources/cancer-australia-publications/consumer-information-sheet-11-breast-reconstruction-after-mastectomy>

[23] <https://thestatement.canceraustralia.gov.au/the-practices/practice-12>

[24] <https://canceraustralia.gov.au/publications-and-resources/cancer-australia-publications/consumer-information-sheet-12-intensive-follow-testing>