

Guadalupe Regional

MEDICAL CENTER



NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Dorothy Wiley
830/401-7418**

MAMMOGRAPHY—

A POWERFUL TOOL AGAINST BREAST CANCER

**Guadalupe Regional Medical Center Observes Breast Cancer
Awareness Month during October**

(Seguin, Texas – October 1, 2007) – Last year, more than 3,400 women from our region took an important step towards cancer prevention by visiting Guadalupe Regional Medical Center’s Imaging Department for their annual mammogram. Only cancer that is detected can be treated, and the earlier cancer is detected the greater the chances of successful treatment. By getting a mammogram, these GRMC patients greatly increased their chances of finding breast cancer early.

A mammogram can detect a cancer two to five years before a person can feel an abnormality. And women diagnosed with early breast cancer, when the cancer is small, have a high chance of surviving.

Breast cancer is the second most common cancer in women, with skin cancer being the most common, and also has the second highest cancer death rate after lung cancer. One in eight women will develop breast cancer and one in 33 will die from the disease.

The likelihood of developing breast cancer increases with age. At age 40, women should begin having annual mammograms. The American Cancer Society recommends reducing your risk of breast cancer with regular exercise, maintaining a healthy weight and limiting alcohol

consumption. It is also important to perform a monthly self-examination, a yearly physical exam by your physician, and a yearly mammogram. “Mammograms can find breast cancer in its earliest stages—when tumors are still too tiny to feel and treatment is most likely to succeed,” says GRMC’s chief technologist Janice Klepper. Through early detection and improved treatments, more women are also having breast-sparing surgeries rather than mastectomies.

Guadalupe Regional Medical Center is proud to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month and will be distributing pink nail files to all patients who receive a mammogram during October. The Mammography Department at Guadalupe Regional is a “Certified Mammography Facility” by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and is also certified by the Texas Mammography Accreditation Program. In addition, the studies are performed by mammography technologists who are registered by the American Registry of Radiological Technologists. Most insurance providers cover the cost of mammograms, but for those not covered by insurance, the cost is \$112.00, plus a reading fee by the radiologist of approximately \$55.00. **To schedule a mammogram, please call 830/401-7745.**

Guadalupe Regional Medical Center is a 119-licensed bed acute care facility, fully accredited by the Joint Commission. The medical staff of more than 60 physicians and 700 employees serves residents of Guadalupe, Comal, Wilson, Gonzales, Caldwell, Hays, and Kenedy counties. Last year, the hospital, jointly owned by the City of Seguin and Guadalupe County, admitted 5,500 patients, handled 26,000 Emergency Department visits, 700 births, and performed 3,500 surgeries.