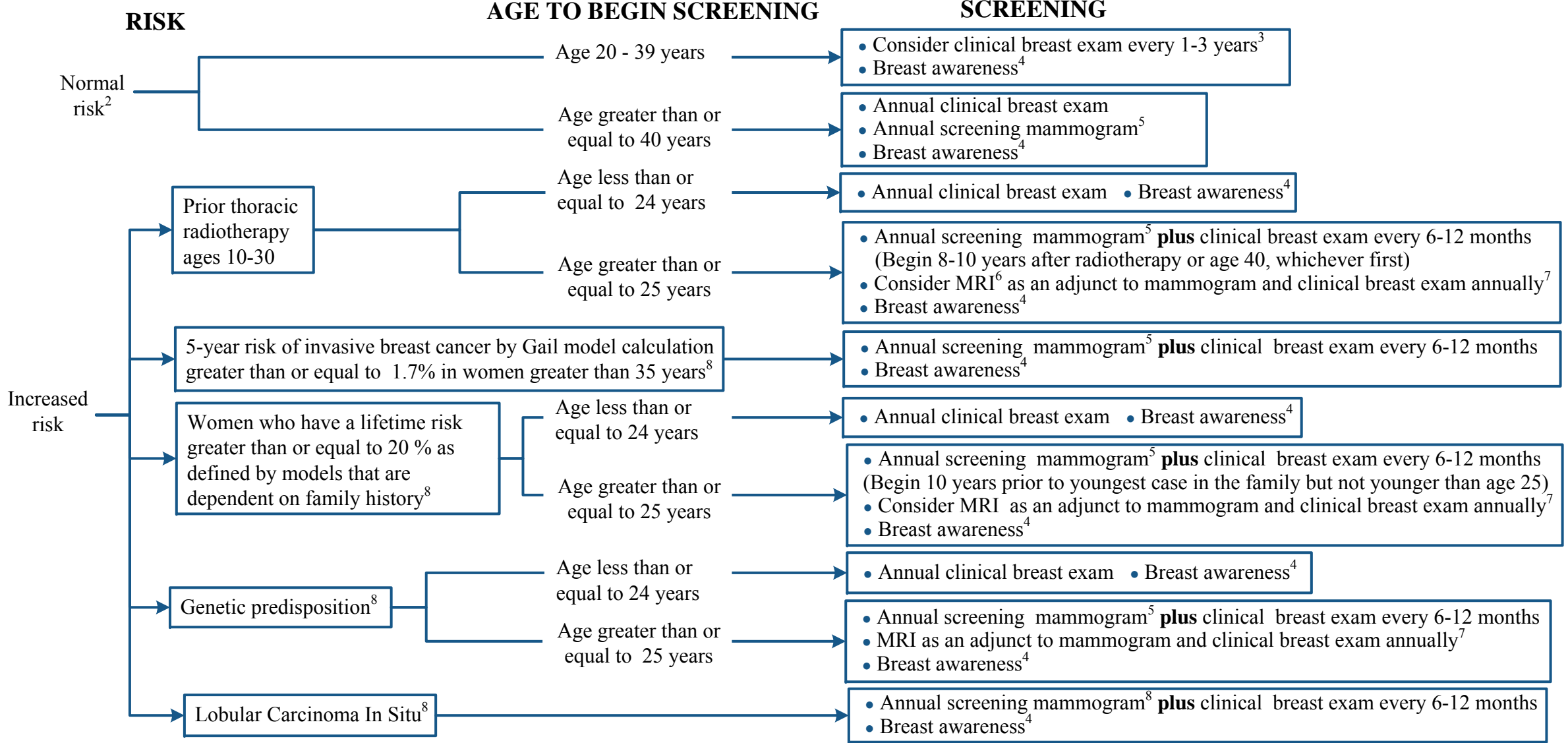


Breast Cancer Screening

This practice algorithm has been specifically developed for M. D. Anderson using a multidisciplinary approach and taking into consideration circumstances particular to M. D. Anderson, including the following: M. D. Anderson's specific patient population; M. D. Anderson's services and structure; and M. D. Anderson's clinical information. Moreover, this algorithm is not intended to replace the independent medical or professional judgment of physicians or other health care providers. This algorithm should not be used to treat pregnant women.

Note: This algorithm is not intended for women with a personal history of breast cancer¹. Breast cancer screening may continue as long as a woman has a 10-year life expectancy and no co-morbidities that would limit the diagnostic evaluation or treatment of any identified problem. Women should be counseled about the benefits, risks and limitations of screening mammography.



¹ Please see the Breast Cancer Treatment or Survivorship algorithms for the management of women with a personal history of breast cancer.
² Women who do not meet one of the increased risk categories.
³ Effectiveness of clinical breast exams has not been assessed in women 20-39 years of age.
⁴ Women should be familiar with their breasts and promptly report changes to their healthcare provider.
⁵ Augmented breasts need additional views for complete assessment.

⁶ Risk of breast cancer begins to increase 8-10 years after thoracic exposure. The optimal age to begin MRI screening in this high risk population is not currently known.
⁷ Current practice at M. D. Anderson is to alternate the mammogram and breast MRI every 6 months. While there is no data to suggest that this is the optimal approach, it is done with the expectation that interval cancers may be identified earlier. Other screening regimens, such as breast MRI done at the time of the annual mammogram, are also acceptable.
⁸ For women at increased risk, see Risk Reduction Algorithm (currently in development).

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Note: This algorithm is intended for women who have not undergone prophylactic mastectomy. Breast cancer screening may continue as long as a woman has a 10-year life expectancy and no co-morbidities that would limit the diagnostic evaluation or treatment of any identified problem. Women should be counseled about the benefits, risks and limitations of mammography.

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DEVELOPMENT CREDITS

This practice consensus algorithm is based on majority expert opinion of Cancer Prevention at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. It was developed using a multidisciplinary approach that included input from the following faculty that comprised the Breast Screening Core Development Team .

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