**How Breastscreen Australia addresses the Principles of the Social Model of Health**

1. Go to <https://www.breastscreen.org.au/>
2. Explain Breastscreen Australia. Please include the following information about it:
* Its aims.
To reduce the impact of a breast cancer diagnosis ensuring that women have the best health outcome through early detection. They aim to provide free mammograms to 70% of women aged 50-74 every two years, as they are the group most at risk of developing the disease.
* Various actions of the program (for example, how it is being implemented).
Offer mobile services to ensure disadvantaged women can access screening.
1. Explain how the BreastScreen Australia program reflects the principles of the model of social health.

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| **Principle of Social Model of Health** | **BreastScreen Australia**  |
| *Addresses the broader determinants of health*. | BreastScreen addresses the factor of gender and focuses on women in particular as they are more likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer. Through providing a mobile screening service, BreastScreen also address low socioeconomical status and geographical location of women who may not have easy access to these types of services. |
| *Involves* *intersectoral collaboration.* | BreastScreen Victoria has developed strong partnerships with both the public and private health service providers who manage daily operation of the screening and assessment services. Austin Health, Bairnsdale Regional Health Service, Ballarat Health Services, Bass Coast Health, Bendigo Health, Cabrini Health, Capital Radiology, Central Gippsland Health Service, David Jones, Department of Health and Human Services, Eastern Health, Echuca Regional Health, GIG Radiology, I-Med Radiology, Lake Imaging, Latrobe Regional Hospital, Lifepool, Melbourne Health, Monash Health, Northeast Health Wangaratta, Northern Health, Portland District Health, St Vincent’s Melbourne Hospital, Western Health, Wimmera Health Care Group. |
| *Acts to reduce social inequities.* | BreastScreen works to minimise social inequities of gender, low socioeconomic status and geographical location by providing the service for all women where possible, specifically through their travel screening program. |
| *Acts to enable access to health care*. | Many women live in low socioeconomical areas and rural areas and lack access to healthcare so BreastScreen provides a travelling screening program to reduce this lack of healthcare access in attempts to reach all women in Australia to provide this service. |
| *Empowers individuals and communities*. | The program supplies knowledge and information about the procedures of the screening and options to how they are conducted and that women conduct the screenings in order to empower and other women to get these screenings done. The website includes information as to how women are able to make positive changes to their lifestyles in order to reduce chances of being diagnosed with breast cancer. |

1. **How might the Biomedical Model of Health address this health concern?**

BreastScreen focuses on diagnosing breast cancer by relying on technology such as the screening. It focuses on breast cancer (disease) and it relies on services provided by doctors, specialists and hospitals.

1. **Analyse (consider positives and negatives) the ability of the Biomedical Model and the Social Model to address this health concern.**

**Positive:** the program promotes good health and wellbeing in preventing breast cancer as well as overall health and wellbeing, BreastScreen focuses on women and has increased focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, education and information is provided, the responsibility for health and wellbeing is shared.
The funding provided to the program enables improvements in technology and research, it enable for the disease to be diagnosed, if diagnosed and treated before it become serious it can increase life expectancy and improve quality of life.

**Negative:** Not all breast cancer can be prevented, treated and cured, realistically not all women will be able to access this travelling service and they may perhaps have the disease, health promotion messages may be ignored or not even known about.
The program relies on professional health workers and technology and therefore is costly, it doesn’t always promote good health and wellbeing as it can encourage dependence on the service, not all conditions can be diagnosed, treated and cured as some women may not ever get access to this, and even if diagnosed early there is no guarantee that it can be cured, some women may not be able to afford the screening or treatment.