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Communicating Mammography Reports to Patients

Following is a question from one of our members:

Q: Who is responsible for communicating mammography reports to the patient?

A: The American College of Radiology (ACR) and Mammography Quality Standard Act (MQSA) states that all reports for mammography must be reported to the primary care physician and the patient.

The radiology facility must provide a letter within 30 days. However, in cases where the assessment is a B1-RADS category 4 or 5, the facility must communicate to the primary care physician directly within three days. If the provider is not available, the report must be given to a responsible designee.

[The sample letters](#) from the MQSA clearly state that the primary care physician will follow-up with the patient. Communication between the primary care physician and patient should take place; appropriate follow-up must also be demonstrated and documented.

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