

Triple assessment

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Patients presenting with a breast lump, nipple discharge or other symptoms are assessed by a combination of clinical examination, radiological imaging and tissue sampling taken for either cytological or histological analysis. This combined approach is called 'triple assessment' (Figure 58.2). The positive predictive value and diagnostic accuracy of this combination approach 100%. The clinical assessment should involve a thorough history and clinical breast examination that includes inspection and palpation (Figure 58.3 and 58.2).

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