Radiologists' expectations for help from AI when reading mammograms

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The development of low dose film-screen mammography made it possible to find breast cancers in their non-palpable phase and offer population-based screening with mammography. Randomized controlled trials have been carried out and proved that early detection of breast cancer and treatment in early phase significantly decreases mortality from the disease. The two obstacles hindering control of breast cancer through early detection are: 1) The lack of uniformly high image quality. The introduction of full-field digital mammography removed this major obstacle. Today the image quality is good to excellent throughout the world where FFDM is used. 2) A lack of uniformly high mammography reading skills among radiologists is still with us. A potential solution, the development of artificial intelligence (AI) gives hope that we can overcome the second obstacle. Radiologists should welcome AI with open arms, since it might be the solution, we need to bring the reading skills of the radiologists to a consistently high level, as happened earlier with image quality.