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Regular screening is the breast advice

MEMBER for Murray Plains Peter Walsh is encouraging women in the Murray Plains Electorate aged over 50 to have a free screening mammogram every two years.

He said 75 per cent of women diagnosed with breast cancer are aged over 50 and regular breast screens are the best way to find breast cancer early and when treatment is most likely to be successful.

"Nearly 60 per cent of women in the Murray Plains Electorate are reported as having a regular breast screen every two years," Mr Walsh said. "This is slightly higher than the state participation rate of 52.3 per cent, however well below the state target of 70 per cent.

"Whilst I am encouraged we are above the Victorian average and that so many women in the electorate are participating in this vital program, we need to see a much higher participation rate if we are to achieve substantial reductions in mortality from breast cancer.

"This free service can have a substantial impact on women's lives and the short 10 minute appointment could in fact be life saving."

Clinics are available in Echuca.