



WHAT EVERY WOMAN SHOULD KNOW

ABOUT BREAST CANCER

Breast cancer is the most common non-skin cancer among American women. Advances in breast cancer treatment mean many women today can expect to beat the disease and maintain their physical appearance.



1 in 8

women will develop invasive breast cancer during her lifetime.



About 55,720

new cases of ductal carcinoma will be diagnosed in 2023. **About**

297,790

new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women in 2023.

5-YEAR **SURVIVAL RATE FOR WOMEN WITH BREAST CANCER**

Today

RISK FACTORS



Most invasive breast cancers are found in women ages

55 or older.



Breast cancer is

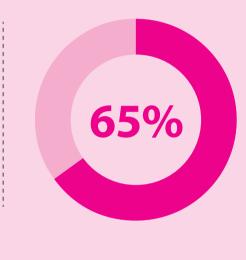
100 times

more common in women than men. About 297,790 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in 2023.



Women with an **immediate blood relative**, such as a mother or sister, who has had breast cancer are

twice as likely to develop the disease.



Women with a mutated BRCA1 gene have about a

55-72 percent

lifetime risk of developing breast cancer. The average woman's lifetime risk is 12%.



Women with less fatty tissue and more glandular and fibrous tissue may be at **higher risk for** developing breast cancer.



Fat tissue may contribute to increases

in estrogen levels, and high levels of estrogen may increase the risk of breast cancer.



Alcohol use is linked

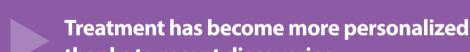
to an increased risk of developing breast cancer. The risk increases with the amount of alcohol consumed.

TREATMENT OPTIONS



Treating breast cancer has advanced significantly in the past 30 years.

Most women today do not need a mastectomy and can be treated just as effectively with a lumpectomy. Modern radiation techniques are better at avoiding damage to healthy tissue and chemotherapy has less serious side effects.



thanks to recent discoveries. Researchers have identified estrogen receptor-positive (ER+) breast cancer and

the link between the human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2) protein and breast cancer growth. An understanding of the biological type of breast cancer informs treatment options today. Healthy breast cells contain receptors for the hormones estrogen and progesterone. They also contain receptors for a protein called HER2, which stimulates normal cell growth.



INVASIVE DUCTAL

CARCINOMA is the **most**

common type of breast cancer. It may spread to other parts of the body through the blood

and lymph systems.

Invasive, or

infiltrating, ductal carcinoma begins in a milk duct and grows into the fatty tissue of the breast.



LOBES

DUCTS



with breast cancer have cells with

receptors for estrogen and progesterone.



many HER2 receptors.

of breast cancers have too





do not contain receptors for estrogen, progesterone, or HER2. This type of breast cancer is triple-negative.



Surgery

individual case. Surgical options include: • **Lumpectomy:** Only the tumor is removed. It's also known as breast conservation therapy.

The type of surgery you have depends on your

- Mastectomy: All breast tissue is removed. In many cases, breast skin and the nipple can be spared.
- Breast reconstruction: The breast is rebuilt after a total mastectomy.
- Oncoplastic: The tumor is removed and breast is reshaped to prevent contour deformities.

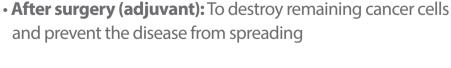


Chemotherapy

have chemotherapy: • **Before surgery (neo-adjuvant):** To reduce the size of large tumors and destroy cancer cells

metastatic breast cancer. Women with early stage disease may

Typically used to treat patients with locally advanced or



Radiation therapy



Used to **shrink a large tumor** before surgery or destroy cancer

cells that remain after breast-sparing surgery. Advanced radiation therapy techniques and technologies can target the tumor while sparing healthy tissue. These include: intensity modulated radiation therapy and high-dose rate (HDR) brachytherapy.





Targeted therapy



that produce too much of the HER2 protein.

Prevents cancer cells from dividing or destroys cancer cells **directly.** The drug Herceptin[®] is a targeted therapy for tumors

Hormone therapy

growth of cancer cells. Two common types of hormone therapy are: • Selective estrogen receptor modulators: Drugs that block estrogen from reaching cancer cells. Tamoxifen is a commonly used

Adds, blocks or removes hormones from the body to slow or stop the

hormone therapy to prevent breast cancer recurrence. • **Aromatase inhibitors:** Drugs that block estrogen production to starve cancer cells of estrogen that fuels cell growth.

UNDERSTANDING THE DISEASE Breast cancer forms in tissues of the

breast. About 1 in 5 new breast cancer cases are ductal carcinoma in situ. This type of breast cancer begins in the milk ducts, the tubes that carry breast milk from the lobules to the nipple. Nearly all women treated at this early stage can expect to be cancer-free.

signs and symptoms: Skin changes, Nipple discharge

Common breast cancer

- such as swelling and redness • An increase in size or
 - breast milk General pain

other than

the breast(s) Changes in the

appearance of one

or both nipples

change in shape of

in/on any part of the breast Lumps or nodes

felt on or inside of

Symptoms specific to

invasive breast cancer

Changes in touch

tender or warm)

the nipple skin

Redness or pitting

Peeling or flaking of

(may feel hard,

the breast

itchy breasts Change in breast color

Increase in breast

Irritated or

size or shape over a short period of time

thickening

A breast lump or

- of the breast skin (like the skin of an orange)
- **PREVENTION** AND SCREENING

Preventive Services Task

Force recommended that women begin routine mammograms at age 50, and then get the test every two years.

annual mammograms at age 40. Women at higher risk for breast cancer, such as those with a family history, should discuss the most appropriate

screening plan with their doctor.

For more information, visit www.cancercenter.com/breast-cancer/

The American Cancer Society and many

physicians say women still should begin

