

6 FACTS

about breast cancer screening

1

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women worldwide, regardless of race or ethnicity. Men can also get breast cancer, although it is rare.

2

Regular monitoring is the best way to catch breast cancer early when it's most treatable. The 5-year survival rate for localized breast cancer in women is 98.8%. Regular doctor evaluations to determine your risk for breast cancer and mammograms can help detect lumps or other abnormalities.

3

Mammograms are designed to detect early breast cancer. Talk to your doctor to determine the best age for you to start getting a mammogram and how frequently you need mammograms, as this changes based on your age, health and family history. The USPSTF recommends women age 50–74 at average risk for breast cancer get a mammogram every two years. Women who are age 40–49 should talk to their doctor or other health care provider about when and how often to get a mammogram.

4

Be familiar with the way your breasts look and feel. If you notice any changes or feel a lump, contact your doctor right away (even if your recent mammogram was negative).

5

Most health insurance plans are required to cover mammograms every one to two years for women 40 years and older with no out-of-pocket costs (co-pay, deductible, or co-insurance). Call your insurance company to confirm your plan's coverage.

6

Share your personal health history and family health history with your doctor to ensure appropriate testing.

Being proactive can save your life so talk to your doctor today about breast cancer screening!

This health alert is brought to you by:



Source: ChoosingWisely.org; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; American Cancer Society; U.S. Preventive Services Task Force; National Cancer Institute

These items are provided solely for informational purposes and are not intended as a substitute for consultation with a medical professional. Patients with any specific questions about the items on this list or their individual health should consult their physician.

