

## BREAST CANCER AWARENESS THE FACTS

- 1 Breast cancer is the most common cause of cancer in women, excluding skin cancer. Worldwide approximately 1.3 million cases of breast cancer will be detected each year. The chance of a woman having invasive breast cancer some time during her life is a little less than 1 in 8. <sup>1</sup>
- 2 According to the World Health Organization, in 2008 breast cancer was cited as one of the top five causes for cancer-related deaths worldwide. The organization estimated that out of approximately 7.6 million deaths, 460,000 were caused by breast cancer.
- 3 In 2010, the American Cancer Society estimated that 207,090 new cases of invasive breast cancer (Stages I-IV) were diagnosed among women in the United States, with 39,840 deaths. <sup>2</sup>
- 4 Women age 40 and older should have a screening mammogram every year and should keep on doing so for as long as they are in good health. While mammograms can miss some cancers, they are still a very effective way to find breast cancer. <sup>3</sup>
- 5 Women should begin breast self-exams in their 20's. <sup>4</sup>
- 6 Approximately 5% to 10% of breast cancers can be attributed to genetic predisposition: 20% to 30% of women with breast cancer have a family member with the disease. <sup>5</sup>
- 7 Overall breast cancer incidence rates are lower in African-American women than in Caucasian women. However, African-American women are more likely to die from breast cancer. <sup>6</sup>
- 8 As of 2010 there are more than 2.5 million breast cancer survivors in the United States. <sup>7</sup>
- 9 Being a woman is the main risk for breast cancer, while approximately 1% of all breast cancer cases in the United States are diagnosed in men.
- 10 Breast Cancer is about 100 times more common in women than in men. For men, the lifetime risk of getting breast cancer is about 1 in 1,000. <sup>8</sup>

<sup>1, 2-8</sup> American Cancer Society ([www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)), Facts/Figures: 2009/2010



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