



[Home](#) → [Health Topics](#) → Breast Cancer

URL of this page: <https://medlineplus.gov/breastcancer.html>

Breast Cancer

What is breast cancer?

Breast cancer is a **cancer** [<https://medlineplus.gov/cancer.html>] that starts in breast tissue. It happens when cells in the breast change and grow out of control. New cells grow even when you don't need them, and old cells don't die when they should. These extra cells can form a mass called a tumor.

Sometimes the cancer does not spread any further. This is called "in situ." If the cancer spreads outside the breast, the cancer is called "invasive." It may just spread to nearby tissues and lymph nodes. Or the cancer may metastasize (spread to other parts of the body) through the lymph system or the blood.

Breast cancer is the second most common type of cancer in women in the United States. Rarely, it can also affect **men** [<https://medlineplus.gov/malebreastcancer.html>] .

What are the types of breast cancer?

There are different types of breast cancer. The types are based on which breast cells turn into cancer. The types include:

- **Ductal carcinoma**, which begins in the cells of the ducts. This is the most common type.
- **Lobular carcinoma**, which begins in the lobules. It is more often found in both breasts than other types of breast cancer.
- **Inflammatory breast cancer**, in which cancer cells block lymph vessels in the skin of the breast. The breast becomes warm, red, and swollen. This is a rare type.
- **Paget's disease of the breast**, which is a cancer involving the skin of the nipple. It usually also affects the darker skin around the nipple. It is also rare.

What causes breast cancer?

Breast cancer happens when there are **changes in the genetic material** [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/breast-cancer/#causes>] (DNA). Often, the exact cause of these genetic changes is unknown.

But sometimes these genetic changes are inherited, meaning that you are born with them. Breast cancer that is caused by inherited genetic changes is called hereditary breast cancer.

There are also certain genetic changes that can raise your risk of breast cancer, including changes in the **BRCA1** [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/gene/brca1/>] and **BRCA2** [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/gene/brca2/>] genes. These two changes also raise your risk of ovarian [<https://medlineplus.gov/ovariancancer.html>] and other cancers.

Besides genetics, your lifestyle and the environment can affect your risk of breast cancer.

Who is at risk for breast cancer?

The factors that raise your risk of breast cancer include:

- Older age

- History of breast cancer or benign (noncancer) breast disease
- Inherited risk of breast cancer, including having *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* gene changes
- Dense breast tissue
- A reproductive history that leads to more exposure to the estrogen hormone, including:
 - Menstruating [<https://medlineplus.gov/menstruation.html>] at an early age
 - Being at an older age when you first gave birth or never having given birth
 - Starting menopause [<https://medlineplus.gov/menopause.html>] at a later age
- Taking hormone therapy [<https://medlineplus.gov/hormonereplacementtherapy.html>] for symptoms of menopause
- Radiation therapy [<https://medlineplus.gov/radiationtherapy.html>] to the breast or chest
- Obesity [<https://medlineplus.gov/obesity.html>]
- Drinking alcohol [<https://medlineplus.gov/alcohol.html>]

What are the signs and symptoms of breast cancer?

The signs and symptoms of breast cancer include

- A new lump or thickening in or near the breast or in the armpit.
- A change in the size or shape of the breast.
- A dimple or puckering in the skin of the breast. It may look like the skin of an orange.
- A nipple turned inward into the breast.
- Nipple discharge other than breast milk. The discharge might happen suddenly, be bloody, or happen in only one breast.
- Scaly, red, or swollen skin in the nipple area or the breast.
- Pain in any area of the breast.

How is breast cancer diagnosed?

Your health care provider may use many tools to diagnose breast cancer and figure out which type you have:

- A physical exam, including a clinical breast exam (CBE). This involves checking for any lumps or anything else that seems unusual with the breasts and armpits.
- A medical history.
- Imaging tests, such as a mammogram [<https://medlineplus.gov/mammography.html>] , an ultrasound [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/sonogram/>] , or an MRI [<https://medlineplus.gov/mriscans.html>] .
- Breast biopsy [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/breast-biopsy/>] .
- Blood chemistry tests, which measure different substances in the blood, including electrolytes, fats, proteins, glucose (sugar), and enzymes. Some of the specific blood chemistry tests include a basic metabolic panel (BMP) [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/basic-metabolic-panel-bmp/>] , a comprehensive metabolic panel (CMP) [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/comprehensive-metabolic-panel-cmp/>] , and an electrolyte panel [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/electrolyte-panel/>] .

If these tests show that you have breast cancer, you will have tests that study the cancer cells. These tests help your provider decide which treatment would be best for you. The tests may include:

- Genetic tests [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetic-testing.html>] for genetic changes such in the *BRCA* [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/brca-test/>] and *TP53* [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/tp53-genetic-test/>] genes.
- HER2 test [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/her2-tumor-marker-test/>] . HER2 is a protein involved with cell growth. It is on the outside of all breast cells. If your breast cancer cells have more HER2 than normal, they can grow more quickly and spread to other parts of the body.
- An estrogen and progesterone receptor test. This test measures the amount of estrogen and progesterone (hormones [<https://medlineplus.gov/hormones.html>]) receptors in cancer tissue. If there are more receptors than normal, the cancer is called estrogen and/or progesterone receptor positive. This type of breast cancer may grow more quickly.

Another step is staging the cancer. Staging involves doing tests to find out whether the cancer has spread within the breast or to other parts of the body. The tests may include other diagnostic imaging [<https://medlineplus.gov/diagnosticimaging.html>] tests and a sentinel lymph node biopsy. This biopsy is done to see whether the cancer has spread to the lymph nodes.

What are the treatments for breast cancer?

Treatments for breast cancer include:

- Surgery such as
 - A mastectomy [<https://medlineplus.gov/mastectomy.html>] , which removes the whole breast
 - A lumpectomy to remove the cancer and some normal tissue around it, but not the breast itself
- Radiation therapy [<https://medlineplus.gov/radiationtherapy.html>]
- Chemotherapy [<https://medlineplus.gov/cancerchemotherapy.html>]
- Hormone therapy, which blocks cancer cells from getting the hormones they need to grow
- Targeted therapy, which uses drugs or other substances that attack specific cancer cells with less harm to normal cells
- Immunotherapy [<https://medlineplus.gov/cancerimmunotherapy.html>]

Can breast cancer be prevented?

You may be able to help prevent breast cancer by making healthy lifestyle changes such as:

- Staying at a healthy weight
- Limiting alcohol use
- Getting enough exercise [<https://medlineplus.gov/howmuchexercisedoineed.html>]
- Limiting your exposure to estrogen by
 - Breastfeeding [<https://medlineplus.gov/breastfeeding.html>] your babies if you can
 - Limiting hormone therapy

If you are at high risk, your provider may suggest that you take certain medicines to lower the risk. Some women at very high risk may decide to get a mastectomy (of their healthy breasts) to prevent breast cancer.





It's also important to get regular mammograms. They may be able to identify breast cancer in the early stages, when it is easier to treat.








NIH: National Cancer Institute

Start Here

- **Breast Cancer** [<https://familydoctor.org/condition/breast-cancer/?adfree=true>] (American Academy of Family Physicians)
Also in Spanish [<https://es.familydoctor.org/condicion/cancer-de-seno-es/?adfree=true>]
- **Breast Cancer** [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/breast-cancer/symptoms-causes/syc-20352470?p=1>]
(Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
- **What Is Breast Cancer?** [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/breast-cancer/about/what-is-breast-cancer.html>]
(American Cancer Society)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/tipos/cancer-de-seno/acerca/que-es-el-cancer-de-seno.html>]

Diagnosis and Tests

- **BRCA Genetic Test** [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/brca-test/>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/pruebas-de-laboratorio/prueba-de-brca/>]
- **Breast Biopsy** [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/breast-biopsy/>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/pruebas-de-laboratorio/biopsia-de-seno/>]
- **Breast Cancer Early Detection and Diagnosis** [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/breast-cancer/screening-tests-and-early-detection.html>] (American Cancer Society)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/tipos/cancer-de-seno/pruebas-de-deteccion-y-deteccion-temprana-del-cancer-de-seno.html>]
- **Breast Cancer Screening** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/patient/breast-screening-pdq>]  (National Cancer Institute)
- **Breast Health: Follow-up After an Abnormal Mammogram** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/breast-changes>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/seno/significado-cambios-en-los-senos>]

- Breast MRI [<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/breastmr>] (American College of Radiology; Radiological Society of North America)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/es/info/breastmr>]
- Breast Self-Exam for Breast Awareness [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/tests-procedures/breast-exam/about/pac-20393237?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/tests-procedures/breast-exam/about/pac-20393237?p=1>]
- Breast Ultrasound [<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/breastus>]
(American College of Radiology; Radiological Society of North America)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/es/info/breastus>]
- Estrogen Receptor, Progesterone Receptor Tests [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/estrogen-receptor-progesterone-receptor-tests/>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/pruebas-de-laboratorio/pruebas-de-receptores-de-estrogeno-y-de-progesterona/>]
- HER2 Tumor Marker Test [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/her2-tumor-marker-test/>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/pruebas-de-laboratorio/prueba-de-marcador-tumoral-her2/>]
- Lymphoscintigraphy [<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/lympho>]
(American College of Radiology; Radiological Society of North America)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/es/info/lympho>]
- Molecular Breast Imaging [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/tests-procedures/molecular-breast-imaging/about/pac-20394710?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/tests-procedures/molecular-breast-imaging/about/pac-20394710?p=1>]
- Needle Biopsy [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/tests-procedures/needle-biopsy/about/pac-20394749?p=1>]
(Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/tests-procedures/needle-biopsy/about/pac-20394749?p=1>]
- PDL1 (Immunotherapy) Tests [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/pdl1-immunotherapy-tests/>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/pruebas-de-laboratorio/prueba-de-pd-l1-inmunoterapia/>]
- PTEN Genetic Test [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/pten-genetic-test/>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/pruebas-de-laboratorio/prueba-genetica-del-pten/>]
- Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/sentinel-lymph-node-biopsy/>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/pruebas-de-laboratorio/biopsia-de-ganglio-centinela/>]
- TP53 Genetic Test [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/tp53-genetic-test/>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/pruebas-de-laboratorio/prueba-genetica-tp-53-proteina-tumoral-53/>]
- Tumor Marker Tests [<https://medlineplus.gov/lab-tests/tumor-marker-tests/>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/pruebas-de-laboratorio/marcadores-tumorales/>]
- Understanding Your Pathology Report [<https://www.lbbc.org/about-breast-cancer/testing/your-pathology-report>]
(Living Beyond Breast Cancer)

Prevention and Risk Factors

- Aromatase Inhibitors for Lowering Breast Cancer Risk [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/breast-cancer/risk-and-prevention/aromatase-inhibitors-for-lowering-breast-cancer-risk.html>] (American Cancer Society)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/tipos/cancer-de-seno/riesgos-y-prevencion/inhibidores-de-la-aromatasa-para-disminuir-el-riesgo-de-cancer-de-seno.html>]
- Breast Cancer Prevention [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/patient/breast-prevention-pdq>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/seno/paciente/prevencion-seno-pdq#section/all>]
- Breast Cancer Prevention: How to Reduce Your Risk [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/womens-health/in-depth/breast-cancer-prevention/art-20044676?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
- Lifestyle-related Breast Cancer Risk Factors [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/breast-cancer/risk-and-prevention/lifestyle-related-breast-cancer-risk-factors.html>] (American Cancer Society)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/tipos/cancer-de-seno/riesgos-y-prevencion/factores-de-riesgo-para-el-cancer-de-seno-relacionados-con-el-estilo-de-vida.html>]
- Mammography: MedlinePlus Health Topic [<https://medlineplus.gov/mammography.html>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/mammography.html>]

Surgery to Reduce the Risk of Breast Cancer [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/risk-reducing-surgery-fact-sheet>]


 (National Cancer Institute)

Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/seno/hoja-informativa-mastectomia-preventiva>]

Treatments and Therapies

- Breast Cancer Treatment** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/patient/breast-treatment-pdq>]  (National Cancer Institute)
- Complementary and Integrative Therapies** [<https://www.komen.org/wp-content/uploads/806-397.pdf>]
(Susan G. Komen for the Cure) - **PDF**
- Drugs Approved for Breast Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/drugs/breast>]
 (National Cancer Institute)
- Hormone Therapy for Breast Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/breast-hormone-therapy-fact-sheet>]
 (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/seno/hoja-informativa-terapia-hormonal-seno>]
- Mastectomy: MedlinePlus Health Topic** [<https://medlineplus.gov/mastectomy.html>]  (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/mastectomy.html>]
- Surgery Choices for Women with DCIS or Breast Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/surgery-choices>]
 (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/seno/opciones-de-cirugia>]

Living With

- Coping with Stress** [<https://www.komen.org/breast-cancer/survivorship/stress/coping-with-stress/>]
(Susan G. Komen for the Cure)
- Eating Hints: Before, during, and after Cancer Treatment** [<https://www.cancer.gov/publications/patient-education/eating-hints>]  (National Cancer Institute) - **PDF**
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/publicaciones/educacion-para-pacientes/consejos-de-alimentacion>]
- Follow up Care After Breast Cancer Treatment** [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/breast-cancer/living-as-a-breast-cancer-survivor/follow-up-care-after-breast-cancer-treatment.html>] (American Cancer Society)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/tipos/cancer-de-seno/la-vida-como-una-sobreviviente-de-cancer-de-seno.html>]
- Insomnia and Fatigue** [<https://www.lbbc.org/about-breast-cancer/side-effects/insomnia-fatigue>] (Living Beyond Breast Cancer)
- Quality of Life after Breast Cancer Treatment** [<https://www.komen.org/breast-cancer/survivorship/health-concerns/quality-of-life/>] (Susan G. Komen for the Cure)

Related Issues

- Axillary Lymph Nodes and Breast Cancer** [<https://www.komen.org/wp-content/uploads/AxillaryLymphNodes-1.pdf>]
(Susan G. Komen for the Cure) - **PDF**
- Breast Cancer and Bone Loss** [<https://www.endocrine.org/patient-engagement/endocrine-library/breast-cancer-and-bone-loss>] (Endocrine Society)
- Breast Cancer Screening** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/patient/breast-screening-pdq>]  (National Cancer Institute)
- Breast Cancer Treatment during Pregnancy** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/patient/pregnancy-breast-treatment-pdq#section/all>]  (National Cancer Institute)
- Dense Breasts: Answers to Commonly Asked Questions** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/breast-changes/dense-breasts>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/seno/significado-cambios-en-los-senos/senos-densos>]
- Diethylstilbestrol (DES) Exposure and Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/hormones/des-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/riesgo/hormonas/hoja-informativa-des>]
- Fertility Problems** [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/managing-cancer/side-effects/fertility.html>] (American Cancer Society)





Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/como-sobrellevar-el-cancer/efectos-secundarios/efectos-secundarios-sobre-la-fertilidad-y-la-sexualidad.html>]

- **Menopausal Hormone Therapy and Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/hormones/mht-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/riesgo/hormonas/hoja-informativa-hormonas-menopausia>]
- **Oral Contraceptives and Cancer Risk** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/hormones/oral-contraceptives-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/riesgo/hormonas/hoja-informativa-pildoras-anticonceptivas>]
- **What Causes Breast Cancer?** [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/breast-cancer/about/how-does-breast-cancer-form.html>] (American Cancer Society)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/tipos/cancer-de-seno/acerca/como-se-forma-el-cancer-de-seno.html>]
- **Women with Disabilities and Breast Cancer Screening** [<https://www.cdc.gov/disability-and-health/conditions/breast-cancer-screening.html>] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

Specifics

- **Ductal Carcinoma in Situ (DCIS)** [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/dcis/symptoms-causes/syc-20371889?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
- **HER2-Positive Breast Cancer: What Is It?** [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/breast-cancer/expert-answers/breast-cancer/faq-20058066?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/diseases-conditions/breast-cancer/expert-answers/breast-cancer/faq-20058066?p=1>]
- **Inflammatory Breast Cancer** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/ibc-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/seno/hoja-informativa-seno-inflamatorio>]
- **Lobular Carcinoma In Situ (LCIS)** [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/lobular-carcinoma-in-situ/symptoms-causes/syc-20374529?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/diseases-conditions/lobular-carcinoma-in-situ/symptoms-causes/syc-20374529?p=1>]
- **Paget Disease of the Breast** [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/paget-breast-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/seno/hoja-informativa-paget-seno>]
- **Triple-Negative Breast Cancer** [<https://www.lbbc.org/about-breast-cancer/types-breast-cancer/triple-negative>]
(Living Beyond Breast Cancer)

Genetics

- **About Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancers** [<https://www.cdc.gov/breast-ovarian-cancer-hereditary/about/>]
(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- **BRCA Gene Changes: Cancer Risk and Genetic Testing** [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/genetics/brca-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/genetica/hoja-informativa-brca>]
- **Breast cancer: MedlinePlus Genetics** [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/breast-cancer>]
 (National Library of Medicine)
- **Genetic Counseling for Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer** [<https://www.cdc.gov/breast-ovarian-cancer-hereditary/genetic-counseling/>] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- **Learning about Breast Cancer** [<https://www.genome.gov/Genetic-Disorders/Breast-Cancer>]
 (National Human Genome Research Institute)
- **Li-Fraumeni syndrome: MedlinePlus Genetics** [<https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/li-fraumeni-syndrome>]
 (National Library of Medicine)
- **People at Increased Risk for BRCA Gene Mutations** [<https://www.cdc.gov/breast-ovarian-cancer-hereditary/risk-factors/index.html>] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

Videos and Tutorials





- **Lymphatics and the breast** [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/anatomyvideos/000084.htm>]  (Medical Encyclopedia)

Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/anatomyvideos/000084.htm>]





Test Your Knowledge

- Breast Cancer Risk Factors Quiz [https://medlineplus.gov/ency/quiz/000913_37.htm] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/quiz/000913_91.htm]

Statistics and Research

- Advances in Breast Cancer Research [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/research>]  (National Cancer Institute)
- Advances in Breast Cancer: Screening and Treatment Get Personal [<https://newsinhealth.nih.gov/2022/02/advances-breast-cancer>]  (National Institutes of Health)
Also in Spanish [<https://salud.nih.gov/recursos-de-salud/nih-noticias-de-salud/avances-en-el-cancer-de-mama>]
- Breast Cancer Statistics [<https://www.cdc.gov/breast-cancer/statistics/>] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cdc.gov/breast-cancer/es/statistics/index.html>]
- Cancer Stat Facts: Female Breast Cancer [<https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/breast.html>]  (National Cancer Institute)
- Sister Study: A Study of the Environmental and Genetic Risk Factors for Breast Cancer [<https://sisterstudy.niehs.nih.gov/English/index1.htm>]  (National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences)

Clinical Trials


- ClinicalTrials.gov: Breast Neoplasms [<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Breast+Neoplasms%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec>]  (National Institutes of Health)
- ClinicalTrials.gov: Carcinoma, Ductal, Breast [<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Carcinoma,+Ductal,+Breast%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec>]  (National Institutes of Health)
- ClinicalTrials.gov: Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Syndrome [<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Hereditary+Breast+and+Ovarian+Cancer+Syndrome%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec>]  (National Institutes of Health)
- ClinicalTrials.gov: Inflammatory Breast Neoplasms [<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Inflammatory+Breast+Neoplasms%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec>]  (National Institutes of Health)

Journal Articles

References and abstracts from MEDLINE/PubMed (National Library of Medicine)


- Article: Pilot Study of Cannabidiol for Treatment of Aromatase Inhibitor-Associated Musculoskeletal Symptoms... [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40751295>]
- Article: Dalpiciclib combined with pyrotinib and endocrine therapy in women with ER-positive,... [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40743286>]
- Article: Effect of Snyder's hope theory-based nursing intervention on patients with breast... [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40736280>]
- Breast Cancer -- see more articles [<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=%22Inflammatory+Breast+Neoplasms%22%5Bmajr%3Anoexp%5D+OR+%22Carcinoma%2C+Ductal%2C+Breast%22%5Bmajr%3Anoexp%5D+OR+%22Breast+Neoplasms%22%5Bmajr%3Anoexp%5D+OR+%22Hereditary+Breast+and+Ovarian+Cancer+Syndrome%22%5Bmajr%3Anoexp%5D+AND+humans%5Bmh%5D+AND+english%5Bla%5D+AND+%22last+1+Year%22+%5Bedat%5D+AND+%28patient+education+handout%5Bpt%5D+OR+guideline%5Bpt%5D+OR+clinical+trial%5Bpt%5D%29++NOT+%28letter%5Bpt%5D+OR+case+reports%5Bpt%5D+OR+editorial%5Bpt%5D+OR+comment%5Bpt%5D%29+AND+free+full+text%5Bsb%5D+>]

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Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/diseases-conditions/breast-cancer/in-depth/breast-cancer/ART-20045654?p=1>]
- Dictionary of Cancer Terms [<https://www.cancer.gov/publications/dictionaries/cancer-terms>]  (National Cancer Institute)

Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/publicaciones/diccionarios/diccionario-cancer/>]

Find an Expert

- American Cancer Society [<https://www.cancer.org/>]
- Choosing a Cancer Doctor [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/managing-cancer/finding-care/where-to-find-cancer-care/choosing-a-cancer-doctor.html>] (American Cancer Society)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/como-sobrellevar-el-cancer/encontrar-tratamiento/como-elegir-un-medico-y-un-hospital/como-seleccionar-a-un-medico.html>]
- Find a Screening Program Near You [<https://www.cdc.gov/breast-cervical-cancer-screening/about/screenings.html>]
(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cdc.gov/breast-cervical-cancer-screening/es/about/screenings.html>]
- How to Find Find an Ob-Gyn [<https://www.acog.org/womens-health/find-an-ob-gyn>]
(American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists)
- National Cancer Institute [<https://www.cancer.gov/>] 
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol>]
- Organizations that Offer Cancer Support Services [<https://supportorgs.cancer.gov/home.aspx>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://supportorgs.cancer.gov/home.aspx?lang=2>]


Children

- Childhood Breast Cancer Treatment [<https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/patient/child-breast-treatment-pdq>]
 (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/seno/paciente/tratamiento-seno-infantil-pdq>]
- What Is Breast Cancer? [<https://kidshealth.org/en/kids/breast-cancer.html>] (Nemours Foundation)
Also in Spanish [<https://kidshealth.org/es/kids/breast-cancer.html>]

Teenagers

- Should I Do a Breast Self-Exam? [<https://kidshealth.org/en/teens/bse.html>] (Nemours Foundation)

Men

- Male Breast Cancer: MedlinePlus Health Topic [<https://medlineplus.gov/malebreastcancer.html>]
 (National Library of Medicine)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/malebreastcancer.html>]

Patient Handouts

- After chemotherapy - discharge [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000012.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000012.htm>]
- BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene testing [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000690.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000690.htm>]
- Breast biopsy - ultrasound [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007432.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/007432.htm>]
- Breast biopsy -- stereotactic [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007433.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/007433.htm>]
- Breast cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000913.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/000913.htm>]
- Breast cancer staging [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000911.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000911.htm>]
- Breast lump [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003155.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/003155.htm>]

- Breast self-exam [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001993.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/001993.htm>]
- Hormone therapy for breast cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000909.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/patientinstructions/000909.htm>]



MEDICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA

- After chemotherapy - discharge [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000012.htm>]
- BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene testing [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000690.htm>]
- Breast biopsy - ultrasound [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007432.htm>]
- Breast biopsy -- stereotactic [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007433.htm>]
- Breast cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000913.htm>]
- Breast cancer screenings [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000837.htm>]
- Breast cancer staging [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000911.htm>]
- Breast external beam radiation - discharge [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000056.htm>]
- Breast lump [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003155.htm>]
- Breast lump removal - series [https://medlineplus.gov/ency/presentations/100003_1.htm]
- Breast MRI scan [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007360.htm>]
- Breast self-exam [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001993.htm>]
- Breast ultrasound [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003379.htm>]
- Chest radiation - discharge [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000057.htm>]
- Cytology exam of pleural fluid [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003866.htm>]
- Hormone therapy for breast cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000909.htm>]
- Lymphatics and the breast [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/anatomyvideos/000084.htm>]
- Lymphedema - self-care [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000045.htm>]
- Mammogram [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003380.htm>]
- Partial breast brachytherapy [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007692.htm>]
- Partial breast radiation therapy - external beam [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007693.htm>]
- PET scan for breast cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007469.htm>]
- Understanding your breast cancer risk [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000830.htm>]

Whole breast radiation therapy [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007691.htm>]

Related Health Topics

Breast Diseases [<https://medlineplus.gov/breastdiseases.html>]

Breast Reconstruction [<https://medlineplus.gov/breastreconstruction.html>]

Male Breast Cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/malebreastcancer.html>]

Mammography [<https://medlineplus.gov/mammography.html>]

Mastectomy [<https://medlineplus.gov/mastectomy.html>]

National Institutes of Health

The primary NIH organization for research on *Breast Cancer* is the National Cancer Institute [<http://www.cancer.gov/>]

Other Languages

Find health information in languages other than English [<https://medlineplus.gov/languages/breastcancer.html>] on *Breast Cancer*

NIH MedlinePlus Magazine

Breast Cancer at 33: Telemundo Host Adamari López Leads with Laughter

[<https://magazine.medlineplus.gov/article/breast-cancer-at-33-telemundo-host-adamari-lopez-leads-with-laughter>]

Breast Cancer: What You Need to Know [<https://magazine.medlineplus.gov/article/breast-cancer-what-you-need-to-know>]

Cheryll Plunkett Never Stops Fighting [<https://magazine.medlineplus.gov/article/cheryll-plunkett-never-stops-fighting>]

Diagnosed When Pregnant: A Young Mom's Breast Cancer Story [<https://magazine.medlineplus.gov/article/diagnosed-when-pregnant-a-young-moms-breast-cancer-story>]

My Mammogram Was "Abnormal" What Do I do Next? [<https://magazine.medlineplus.gov/article/my-mammogram-was-abnormalwhat-do-i-do-next>]

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