

# Breast Cancer Statistics

- Breast cancer is the number one occurring cancer in women following skin cancer.
- Every two minutes, a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer.
- Every 12 minutes, a person dies from breast cancer.
- Breast cancer is the number one cause of death among women 35 to 54 years of age.
- In 1961, breast cancer incidence was 1 in 20 women; today, it is 1 in 8.
- It is estimated that 2 million women will be diagnosed with breast cancer this decade.
- In this decade, one-half million women will die of breast cancer, which is ten times more Americans than were killed in the Vietnam War.
- Breast cancer has the highest degree of emotional morbidity of any disease for women.
- Breast cancer utilizes more diagnostic X-rays than any other disease yearly.
- Breast cancer requires more surgical operations than any other disease.
- Breast cancer requires more chemotherapy than any other cancer.
- Breast cancer utilizes more radiation therapy than any other cancer.
- Breast cancer requires more diagnostic testing (bone, liver scans).
- Breast cancer requires more hormonal therapy than any other disease.
- Breast cancer is the costliest cancer in physician and hospital bills.
- Breast cancer is the most feared of all diseases for a woman.
- Breast cancer is the most self-discovered of all cancers.

## What About Tomorrow?

### How Can We Change the Future for Many Women?

- Currently, early detection is the best hope for American women. Early detection includes three components:
  1. Monitoring your breast for changes and promptly reporting identified changes to a healthcare provider.
  2. Compliance with screening guidelines for clinical exams and mammography on the recommended basis.
  3. Knowing and reporting a family history of breast or ovarian cancer on either your father's or mother's side to your physician.
- Early detection is the best chance against breast cancer. It is estimated that one-third of the annual breast cancer deaths in America could be prevented with early detection. Breast cancer detected in its early stage can usually be treated successfully.