

Breast cancer in men is rare, but it does happen. Rates of breast cancer incidence (new cases) and mortality (death) are much lower among men than among women. See more here:

- [Breast Cancer in Men](#)
- [Treatment for Breast Cancer in Men](#)
- [Facts for Life – Breast Cancer in Men fact sheet](#)
- [Men can get breast cancer too, tri-fold](#)

## Incidence

- ♦ Breast cancer in men is rare, but it does happen, accounting for about 1 percent of all breast cancer cases in the U.S.<sup>1, p.9</sup>
- ♦ About 2,600 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to occur in men in the U.S. in 2016.<sup>3, p.9</sup>
- ♦ During 1975-2012, the incidence rate of breast cancer in men increased 0.8 percent annually.<sup>1, p.9</sup>
- ♦ Similar to female breast cancer, the incidence of male breast cancer increases with age.<sup>1, p.9</sup>

## Mortality

- ♦ About 440 men will die from breast cancer in the U.S in 2016.<sup>3, p.9</sup>
- ♦ Death rates for male breast cancer have decreased 1.8 percent per year from 2000 to 2012.<sup>1, p.9</sup>

## Survival

- ♦ Survival rates for men are about the same as for women with the same stage of cancer at the time of diagnosis.<sup>6</sup> However, men are usually diagnosed at a later stage which likely reflects decreased awareness and delayed detection.<sup>5</sup>
- ♦ The 5-year relative survival rate for men with breast cancer is 84 percent and the 10-year relative survival rate for men with breast cancer is 72 percent. (This means that men with breast cancer are 84 percent as likely as other men (or "men in the general population") to live 5 years beyond their diagnosis.) Also, these rates are averages and vary depending on each person's diagnosis and treatment.<sup>4</sup>

## Risk Factors

- ♦ Known factors that increase the risk of breast cancer in men include:
  - Radiation exposure
  - *BRCA 1/2* gene mutations
  - Klinefelter syndrome
  - Testicular disorders
  - Family history of male or female breast cancer
  - Diabetes
  - Gynecomastia
  - Obesity<sup>1, p.9</sup>



## Specific Populations and Breast Cancer – Men

- ♦ Warning signs of breast cancer in men include:
  - Lump, hard knot or thickening in the breast, chest or underarm area (usually painless, but may be tender)
  - Change in the size or shape of the breast
  - Dimpling, puckering or redness of the skin of the breast
  - Itchy, scaly sore or rash on the nipple
  - Pulling in of the nipple or other parts of the breast
  - Nipple discharge (rare) <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>[Breast Cancer Facts and Figures, 2015-2016](#), ACS

<sup>2</sup>[Komen.org](#)

<sup>3</sup>[Cancer Facts and Figures, 2016](#) ACS

<sup>4</sup>Howlader N, Noone AM, Krapcho M, et al., editors. *SEER Cancer Statistics Review, 1975-2009: Fast Stats*. Bethesda, MD: National Cancer Institute.

[http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1975\\_2009\\_pops09/](http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1975_2009_pops09/), 2012.

<sup>5</sup>American Cancer Society. *Can breast cancer in men be found early?* <http://www.cancer.org/cancer/breastcancerinmen/detailedguide/breast-cancer-in-men-detection>, 2015

<sup>6</sup>National Cancer Institute. *Male breast cancer treatment*. <http://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/patient/male-breast-treatment-pdq>, 2014.