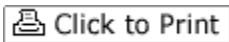




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Health Matters: Breast Cancer

Triston Sanders - Medical Anchor

The odds are that you or someone you know will get breast cancer. Approximately 215,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year. In this Health Matters, we look at the importance of early detection for this disease.

After her annual mammogram, Jan Gagnon was informed that an abnormality was found and that another test would have to be performed.

Jan says, "There were a lot of thoughts going through my mind, the what-ifs, what if this is, what if that is and I think that was probably the hardest part."

Educating the public on the prevalence of breast cancer in this country is a top priority to health professionals.

Dr. Roy Schwartz says, "Breast cancer is one of the most frequent cancers we deal with. In fact one out of nine women if they live to 80 years old will experience breast cancer."

This is one form of cancer that can be controlled if we follow one simple step.

"The key to curing breast cancer is early detection and luckily this is a favorable disease and if found early we can make a significant difference," adds Dr. Schwartz.

Jan's "abnormality" turned out to be breast cancer, which she had treated with radiation therapy.

Jan adds, "Definitely have your mammography yearly. Early detection is so important."

In addition to your annual mammogram, all women should learn how to perform a self-breast exam on a monthly basis. Women with a family history of breast cancer are at greater risk for developing the cancer themselves.

Click on a video link to view this story:

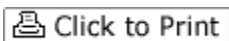
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