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Health Matters: Cancer Myths

Triston Sanders - Medical Anchor

While cancer is a word no one wants to hear, a new study from the American Cancer Society says that there are many misinformed people about there about the realities of cancer. You don't have to be one of them.

In this Health Matters we set the record straight on some myths that exist about cancer and tell you where you can go for trusted information.

This may sound outrageous, but breast cancer survivor Sybil Edgar says she's met a few women who really believed that some unusual behaviors could cause breast cancer.

Sybil says, "I've heard some women say that if they hit their breast or their significant other squeezes to hard they can get cancer, that is a myth, it is not true."

Not knowing the facts can mean patients aren't getting diagnosed early enough or aren't getting effective treatment.

Dr. David Cho, radiation oncologist, says, "I see a lot of patients who have a lot of misunderstandings with incorrect ways of thinking of cancer."

One of those misconceptions that are frustrating for many doctors is that some people still believe that cancer cannot be operated on because once it hits the air it will spread.

"All those things are misconceptions and old wives tales because of poor experiences with surgery and cancer."

With the Internet today, you have to be very careful and make sure the information is coming from a reliable organization.

"And of course, if there is any confusion, ask your physician, ask someone, check it out with the American Cancer Society and get the truth."

You doctor will be your best source for correct information and resources on the facts about cancer. Common myths can be dangerous if they turn people away from healthy lifestyle habits and early detection exams.

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