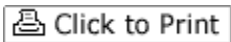




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Health Matters: Cancer Treatments

Triston Sanders - Medical Anchor

The treatment of cancer has changed radically over the years and our greater understanding of this disease is leading to new breakthroughs on an annual basis. In this Health Matters, we'll look at the technology in cancer treatment that is offering new hope for cancer patients.

Several treatment options are available to fight cancer. Many physicians will recommend that their patients use more than one in their battle against this disease.

Joan Mains, a breast cancer survivor, says, "I had inflammatory breast cancer which is very aggressive and I had to have chemo and then surgery, more chemo and radiation."

Cancer is often treated first with chemotherapy, which is given to the patient intravenously or orally. Oncologist Rric Rost explains the advancements in this area.

Rost says, "Real advancements with chemotherapy is we're having more drugs that are able to decrease the side effects of the main chemotherapy drugs, but our goal is to use more of the generic and hormonal drugs, which not only give a better result but allow your lifestyle to continue as you have it."

It is important for patients to know that research is constantly being done to enhance the treatment of cancer.

One of the major advances that we've had in treating cancer is, moving to better radiation, which is more specific, less complicated. We're going to find that cancer is not the feared diagnosis that it once was, and cancer survivors can pass along encouraging words to patients who are just starting their treatment.

"You can get through it. It's not always easy but there is an end and you can get through it."

In order to get through it, you need to detect it. Early detection is your first line of defense in fighting any type of cancer.

The best way to detect cancer early is recognizing symptoms, getting regular check-ups, and for some cancers, like breast cancer, performing self-exams.

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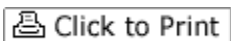
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