

 **PRINT THIS**Powered by  Clickability **Click to Print**[SAVE THIS](#) | [EMAIL THIS](#) | [Close](#)

---

## Health Matters: The Fight Against Cancer

Triston Sanders - Medical Anchor

It's important to remember where we started with our knowledge about cancer to see just how far we have come in fighting this disease.

Technology and research have allowed for greater improvements in detection, diagnosis and treatment of the disease. In this Health Matters we take a look at the fight against cancer over the past 50 years.

Five decades ago, treating cancer was often times feared more than the disease itself. Oncologist Dr. Eric Rost says he's is pleased with the advancements made in this field.

"Well, one of the biggest changes in technology is 50 years ago the number one treatment for breast cancer was surgical removal of the breast, mastectomy, and we used to do radical mastectomies. Now a days you almost never see such surgeries."

The technological advancements have grown tremendously, but positive philosophical changes also need their credit for improvement in treating cancer over the last 50 years.

"The philosophy of cancer care has changed dramatically, whereas before it was always the mark of death."

Now cancer is considered another manageable disease, just like diabetes or heart disease. Early detection, however, is key, and 50 years ago the desire to find it early did not exist.

"It was thought to be fatal, so there was no rush to find it earlier. Now we know that the earlier we find it, the easier the treatment is and the greater success of cure."

Many of the advancements in treatment and screening for cancer can be found in Tallahassee.

"With Capital Regional Medical Center and the specialties that are involved here, as well as the Cancer Hope Foundation, everything that you can possibly ask for and need with very few exceptions is located right here in town."

If the advancement trend continues like it has over the last 50 years, we can look forward to even easier cancer treatments, better preventions and elimination of many of the side effects.

While receiving a diagnosis of cancer can be scary, it is important to understand that cancer can be treated and the goal of cancer treatment and living with this disease is to live well.

**Click on a video link to view this story:**

[Low](#)


[Mid](#)

[High](#)

---

**Find this article at:**

<http://www.wctv6.com/news/features/8/1525892.html>

 **Click to Print**[SAVE THIS](#) | [EMAIL THIS](#) | [Close](#)

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.