

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Lowell Health Department

The Statistics:

- In 2020, it is estimated that about 30% of newly diagnosed cancers in women will be breast cancers.
- Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women in the U.S, besides skin cancer.

What is Breast Cancer?

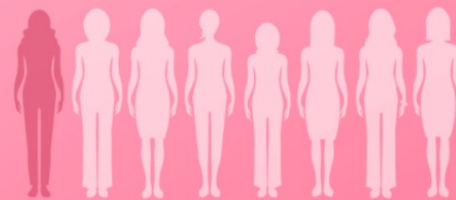
Breast Cancer is when cells in breast tissue change, usually resulting in a lump or mass. Most Breast cancers begin in the milk glands or ducts that connect to the nipple. Over time, cancer cells can invade nearby healthy breast tissue and make their way into the underarm lymph nodes, small organs that filter out foreign substances in the body. If cancer cells get into the lymph nodes, they then have a pathway into other parts of the body. The breast cancer's stage refers to how far the cancer cells have spread beyond the original tumor

Signs and Symptoms

Breast Cancer usually has no symptoms, which is why screening is important for early detection.

How Many Cases Are Expected to Occur?

In 2020, an estimated 276,480 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women and approximately 2,620 cases will be diagnosed in men. There are over 3.5 million breast cancer survivors in the United States.



1 IN 8 WOMEN
in the United States will develop
breast cancer in her lifetime.

How is Breast Cancer Diagnosed?

Breast cancer is typically detected either during screening, before symptoms have developed, or after a woman notices a lump. Most masses seen on a mammogram and most breast lumps turn out to be benign (not cancerous).