

IBC AWARENESS

SO MUCH IS KNOWN ABOUT BREAST CANCER

Women know that they have to do breast exams. They know that they have to have mammograms. What they don't know is that there is a rare form of breast cancer out there that no one talks about. It is called INFLAMMATORY BREAST CANCER.

This type of breast cancer is often missed in a mammogram as it grows in flat layers of the skin. It doesn't necessarily form a lump. It is often misdiagnosed as a breast infection or an imbalance of hormones. While women are taught to look for lumps, they are not taught to look for an inverted nipple. Alarms do not sound when a breast swells, turns red or is hot. Everyone, including some of our doctors, assumes it is an infection.

IBC is not a death sentence but it does have to be treated early and aggressively. It is often misdiagnosed.

KNOW THE SYMPTOMS. Pass this along to friends, family and to your doctors.



Honor Yourself!

AWARENESS SAVES LIVES!

FACTS ABOUT IBC!

- IBC can strike hard and fast at any age. Though rare, even teenagers have been diagnosed with IBC.
- One of the ways to diagnose IBC is to have a skin or core biopsy or an M.R.I. Many times it is diagnosed by a doctors observations.
- There does not have to be a lump with IBC.
- If you have been prescribed antibiotics for a possible breast infection and after 7-10 days of treatment you do not notice improvement, insist on a biopsy or M.R.I.
- Many doctors are not familiar with IBC and miss the symptoms. It is up to the patient to insist on further evaluation by a breast specialist.
- A symptom of breast cancer can be pain in the breast.
- Men can get breast cancer
- No one is exempt from this diagnosis.
- Inflammatory breast cancer (IBC) is a rare and aggressive form of breast cancer. It grows rapidly and spreads to other parts of the body quickly.
- IBC usually grows in nests or sheets rather than a solid tumor. It can spread throughout the breast without a detectable lump.
- IBC cells clog the dermal lymphatics, causing skin changes.

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DIAGNOSIS & TREATMENT

Diagnosis is often difficult

IBC is not usually detected by mammograms unless there is a defined tumor. IBC is frequently misdiagnosed. A skin punch biopsy, a needle core biopsy, MRI or PET scan may assist in the diagnosis.

MAMMOGRAMS AND ULTRASOUNDS ARE NOT ALWAYS ENOUGH!

Treatment

The current treatment protocol begins with chemotherapy, followed by surgery. Radiation follows and in some cases hormonal therapy. Individual treatment may vary and there are always new treatments on the horizon that are improving the prognosis of women and men with IBC.



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SYMPTOMS OF INFLAMMATORY BREAST CANCER

- Rapid, unusual increase in breast size, heaviness or burning.
- Redness, rash, blotchiness on breast.
- Persistent itching of breast or nipple.
- Lump or thickening of breast tissue.
- Stabbing pain and/or soreness of breast.
- Feverish breast.
- Swelling of the lymph nodes under the arm or above the collar bone.
- Dimpling or ridging of breast.
- Flattening or retracting of nipple.
- Nipple discharge or change in pigment area around nipple.

The above signs may indicate a benign breast disorder, however you owe it to yourself and your family to report this to your physician immediately.

**AWARENESS
SAVES LIVES!**

INFORMATION

www.cancer.gov
www.mayoclinic.com
www.ibcresearch.org
www.ibcsupport.org
www.cancer.gov
www.mdanderson.org
www.clinicaltrials.gov
www.pink-link.org
www.ibcarf.com

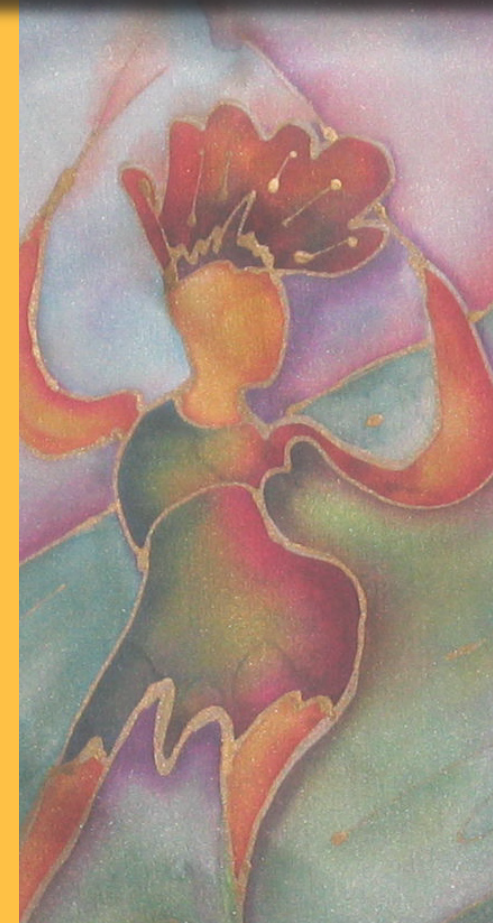


SUPPORT

www.ibcsupport.org
www.y-me.org
www.silksbypriscilla.com
www.lookgoodfeelbetter.org
www.castingforrecovery.org

AN IBC SURVIVOR PROVIDED THE
INFORMATION FOR THIS BROCHURE. SHE
CAN BE CONTACTED AT
WWW.SILKSBYPRISCILLA.COM

INFLAMMATORY BREAST CANCER



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