Breast cancer, one of the most common cancers diagnosed in women in the U.S., occurs when cells grow abnormally in the breast. This becomes life-threatening when the cancer spreads to other organs in the body. While breast cancer in men is rare, it is estimated that nearly 3,000 men will be diagnosed with, and about 500 will die from, breast cancer in 2019.

In 2019, there will be an estimated 271,270 new breast cancer diagnoses and 42,260 breast cancer deaths.

1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. The median age at diagnosis is 62, with most women being diagnosed between ages 55-64 years of age.

As of January 1, 2019, there were over 3.8 million women living in the U.S. with a history of invasive breast cancer.

Majority Say Current Spending on Research to Prevent, Cure and Treat Disease is Not Enough

The U.S. spends about 5 cents of each health dollar on research to prevent, cure and treat disease and disability. Do you think that this is too much, the right amount, or not enough?

Research Delivers Solutions

Due to advances in screening and treatment, the breast cancer death rate in the U.S. decreased by 40% between 1989 and 2016.

Researchers now understand that certain genetic mutations are associated with breast cancer.

Thanks to advancements in medical imaging technology, women can choose to be screened via mammography and other modalities in consultation with their doctor beginning at age 40 to detect cancer early.

Research has shown that some lifestyle changes, such as weight management and increased physical activity, can significantly increase an individual’s survival rate after a breast cancer diagnosis.

The federal clinical research database ClinicalTrials.gov indicates that there are nearly 1,000 clinical trials in the U.S. actively recruiting breast cancer patients for studies of potential new treatments.
Then. Now. Imagine.

**THEN**
In the 1970s, 25% of breast cancer patients died within five years of diagnosis.\(^8\)

**NOW**
That percentage has dropped to less than 10%.\(^8\)

**IMAGINE**
A cure.

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Estimated female breast cancer-caused deaths in 2019

New cases of breast cancer by age group

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References

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SOURCE: American Cancer Society/Siegel et al. 2019.\(^3\)