

Metastatic Breast Cancer

Metastatic breast cancer is the most advanced stage of breast cancer (stage IV), in which cancer has spread beyond the breast to other parts of the body, which may include the bones, liver, lung or brain.¹



FACTS AND FIGURES

- **Breast cancer** is the most common cancer in women with nearly **1.7 million new cases** diagnosed in 2012 worldwide.²
- Up to **30% of women** originally diagnosed with early breast cancer will eventually progress to metastatic breast cancer.^{3,4,5,6}
- **5-10% of women** present with primary metastatic disease at initial diagnosis.⁷
- In **2015**, there were an estimated **560,000 deaths due to breast cancer globally**,⁸ over **90%** of which were due to the spread of the disease to other parts of the body (metastasis).⁹



RISK FACTORS

The risk factors that affect breast cancer, including metastatic disease, are **age (>65 years old)**, **previous breast cancer diagnosis**, **family history**, and **genetic mutations such as BRCA1 and BRCA2**.¹¹



It is estimated that more than



women in the U.S. are living with metastatic breast cancer.¹⁰



DIAGNOSIS

- A clinical **breast exam, mammogram, ultrasound, MRI or biopsy** may be used to diagnose breast cancer.¹¹
- Once diagnosed, **breast cancer is classified by stage** according to the size of the tumor and whether it has spread from the breast to the lymph nodes or other areas of the body.¹



TREATMENT

- Testing for the **presence or absence of certain receptors expressed by tumor cells**, such as estrogen, progesterone and human epidermal growth factor 2 (HER2), is an important factor in **determining if cancer is likely to respond** to a particular treatment such as hormonal or targeted therapy.¹²
- There is currently **no cure for metastatic breast cancer** and the goal of treatment is to **prolong survival while maintaining quality of life**.^{3,13} Systemic treatment options for metastatic breast cancer include chemotherapy, hormone therapy or targeted therapies.¹⁴

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