



Health Care Forum

ASK THE MEDICAL EXPERTS

Breast Cancer Awareness: Making a Real Difference

Nearly one in every eight women will develop breast cancer in their lifetime. That number alone is staggering; add in the fact that an increasing number of radiology facilities no longer provide mammography services, make it even more difficult to accept.

Mammography remains the single best available method for early breast cancer detection. Over the years, Janet Sung, M.D., President of the Windsong Radiology Group, has dedicated her focus on that purpose. "Mammography will save lives," she notes, adding that "not a day goes by that we don't have new breast cancer cases showing up in our office."

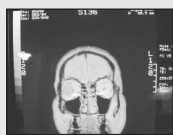
Dr. Sung also knows that the fight against breast cancer is not battled simply by mammography alone. Windsong has long been a proponent of advanced technology and has been a pioneer of new imaging procedures for the WNY community.

The latest addition of PET/CT has provided great inroads in breast cancer diagnosis, staging and restaging. It is also useful in post-treatment monitoring. "Choosing the right therapy approach depends largely on first defining the extent of the disease. We can monitor chemotherapy to find out sooner, rather than later if the treatment is working for that patient or if it needs to change."

"Patients with previous breast cancer remain fearful about recurrence," says Dr. Sung. "Windsong continues to invest in newer technology because this community deserves nothing less."

The American Cancer Society recommends that women 40 and older receive yearly breast exams, including a mammogram. Early detection saves lives. In the life of a cancer patient, every day counts.

By: Janet Sung, M.D.



Imaging Experts

What are some of the risk factors associated with breast cancer?

In addition to family history, age, diet, exercise and hormone replacement therapy. As always, Breast Self Exam is highly encouraged, regardless of your risk factors.

What is the best breast cancer detection method?

While routine mammography is still the single best method of early detection, breast ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) have been utilized by the Windsong Radiology Group to determine the extent of breast disease which may not be detected on mammography. PET/CT has shown great promise in diagnosis, staging and restaging as well as monitoring breast cancer following treatment.

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