



# Risk Factors for developing *breast cancer*

- 1. Being female**
- 2. Increasing age:** The incidence of breast cancer rises sharply between the ages of 45 and 50
- 3. Race/ethnicity:** Caucasian women have the highest incidence of breast cancer
- 4. Age at time of menses and menopause:** Both a younger age when menses begins and a late onset of menopause can increase your risk of breast cancer
- 5. Pregnancy and breast feeding:** Women who have never given birth are more likely to develop breast cancer after menopause. Breast feeding can decrease your chances of developing breast cancer
- 6. Personal history of breast cancer:** A prior history of breast cancer in one breast increases your risk of developing breast cancer in the other breast
- 7. Family history:** See below

## Your personal or family history can contribute to your breast cancer risk if:

- 1.** Two or more relatives on the same side of the family were diagnosed with breast cancer at any age
- 2.** A relative was diagnosed with breast cancer before age 50
- 3.** You have a personal or family history of ovarian cancer
- 4.** You have a male relative with breast cancer
- 5.** You have a member of the family with a known BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutation (BRCA is an altered gene mutation that causes hereditary breast and ovarian cancer)
- 6.** You are of Ashkenazi Jewish descent
- 7.** You have a personal history of prior chest radiation
- 8.** You have dense breasts
- 9.** You score greater than 1.7 on Gail Model Risk assessment or have a lifetime risk that is greater than or equal to 20% as defined by models dependent on family history

Call 843-522-5015 to schedule your annual mammogram.



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