

The BEST way to treat cancer is to find and treat it

EARLY!

Survival rates improve when cancer is found and treated early.

Basics of Early

Detection:

- Do monthly self-exams
- Have recommended screening exams
- Recognize warning signs and see your health care provider



Early Detection

Early detection means finding cancer in its early stage, before it has time to spread beyond the organ where it first started to grow.

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Why is early detection important?

The goal of early detection is to find and remove or destroy cancer before it grows and spreads. This means finding the cancer before people start to have pain or other symptoms.

If found early, cancer can be treated more effectively. The person can also have a better outcome.

What are the basics of early detection?

- Do monthly self-exams.
- Have recommended screening exams.
- Recognize warning signs and see your health care provider.

Currently, not every cancer can be detected at its earliest stage by a screening exam. However, several screening exams and procedures have been developed for some of the most common cancers.

When screening exams are done as recommended, cancer can often be found early before pain or symptoms occur. Recommendations for screening exams are based upon a person's age, risk factors and family history.

Benefits of having a screening exam

- You are actively taking care of your health.
- You may feel a sense of relief.
- You are a positive example for your family and friends

Many screening exams are covered by insurance. If you do not have insurance, local programs and resources may be available. Low-cost and no-cost screenings may also be available.