

J24 Minority Breast Cancer

June 2009

Intro: Breast cancer does not discriminate. Any woman of any race can get it. But what many might not know is that minorities such as African Americans, Latinos and Asians tend to develop breast cancer earlier and often have more aggressive tumors than white women. And too often minorities aren't diagnosed until after the disease has spread. More on breast cancer and minorities from Mayo Clinic.

Video

Total running time 1:41

CG :10 to :19

Aretha Rodgers

Breast cancer survivor

Audio

“ONE. TWO. THREE. FOUR. FIVE.

NAH, I DON'T WANT TO BUY THAT.”

ARETHA RODGERS MAY BE LOSING

THIS GAME OF MONOPOLY. BUT

SHE'S WINNING HER BATTLE

AGAINST BREAST CANCER.

“I KEPT MY FAITH, MY FAMILY KEPT

PRAYING, AND I KEPT LOOKING AT

THE GOAL. THERE IS A GOAL. THAT

I WAS GOING TO BEAT THIS.”

ARETHA ENDURED A

LUMPECTOMY, CHEMOTHERAPY

AND RADIATION. HER GOAL NOW IS

TO EDUCATE OTHER MINORITY

WOMEN ABOUT BREAST CANCER.

SHE STARTED BY REACHING OUT

TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

“IT WAS AT A FAMILY REUNION. MY COUSINS AND MY SISTERS WE ALL WENT IN THE RESTROOM AND I SAID I REALLY NEED YOU ALL TO GET EDUCATED ON THIS AND I WANT YOU ALL TO FEEL WHAT A LUMP IN THE BREAST WOULD FEEL LIKE.”

Standup
CG :46 to :56
Vivien Williams
Reporting

YOU SEE, AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN TEND TO GET BREAST CANCER LESS FREQUENTLY THAN WHITE WOMEN, BUT WHEN THEY DO GET THE DISEASE, THEY'RE OFTEN YOUNGER, AND THE TUMORS TEND TO BE MORE AGGRESSIVE. DR. AMBER ISLEY SAYS ANOTHER ISSUE IS THAT MINORITY WOMEN OFTEN DON'T SEEK MEDICAL CARE AS SOON AS THEY SHOULD.

CG 1:04 to 1:10
Amber Isley, M.D.
Mayo Clinic

“THEY MAY GO IN AT A LATER STAGE, AND THE NEXT THING YOU

KNOW, IT'S MORE ADVANCED, AND THEN THEIR OPPORTUNITIES FOR TREATMENT ARE LIMITED."

AS ARETHA KNOWS, BREAST CANCER IS CURABLE IF YOU CATCH IT EARLY.

"I WAS GRATEFUL THAT I TOOK ACTION WHEN I FOUND THE LUMP."

ARETHA CONTINUES TO ENCOURAGE OTHER MINORITY WOMEN TO TAKE ACTION TOO.

"IT'S O.K. TO CHECK YOUR BREASTS. IT'S O.K. TO GO TO THE DOCTOR. IT'S O.K. TO TALK ABOUT IT."

SHE AND DR. ISLEY WANT ALL WOMEN TO LEARN ABOUT BREAST CANCER SO THEY TOO CAN BE SURVIVORS. FOR MEDICAL EDGE, I'M VIVIEN WILIAMS.

Anchor tag:

For more information on minorities and breast cancer and breast cancer in general, visit our Website at...[STATIONS: Per the licensing agreement, please provide a link from your station's website to <http://www.mayoclinic.org> or voice tag "mayoclinic.org" for more information.]

