

## Global Breast Cancer Facts

- ◆ Worldwide, breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in women. <sup>1, p. 10</sup>
- ◆ An estimated 1.38 million new cases of invasive breast cancer were expected to occur among women in 2008.<sup>4</sup> (At the current rate,  $1.38\text{M} \times 25 \text{ years} = 34.5$  million cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in women over the next 25 years).<sup>4</sup>
- ◆ Every 23 seconds, somewhere in the world, someone is diagnosed with breast cancer.  
**To calculate:** Divide the number of seconds in a year (31,566,926) by the number of new cases/year worldwide (1,380,000) = 22.87458 seconds.
- ◆ Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among women worldwide. <sup>1, p. 10</sup>
- ◆ An estimated 458,000 breast cancer deaths in women were expected in 2008.<sup>4</sup> (At the current rate,  $458,000 \times 25 \text{ years} = 11.4$  million breast cancer deaths will occur in women over the next 25 years).
- ◆ Every 69 seconds, somewhere in the world, someone dies from breast cancer. It is the most prevalent cancer among women today.  
**To calculate:** Divide the number of seconds in a year (31,566,926) by the number of deaths/year worldwide (458,000) = 68.9234 seconds.
- ◆ Worldwide, breast cancer mortality over the last 25 years has been stable or decreasing in some countries. This reduction in developed countries is attributed to early detection through mammography and improved treatment. <sup>1, p. 10</sup>
- ◆ North America, Australia, and Northern and Western Europe have the highest incidence of breast cancer. <sup>1, p. 10</sup>
- ◆ Breast cancer is the most common cancer in occurring in women in North America with 205,515 cases reported in 2008.<sup>4</sup>
- ◆ Breast cancer was second to lung cancer in mortality in women in North America with 45,563 deaths reported in 2008.<sup>4</sup>
- ◆ Over the last 25 years, breast cancer incidence rates have risen about 30 percent in westernized countries, although incidence rates decreased in the U.S. from 2001 – 2004. Rates have been rising in many developing countries. <sup>1, p. 10</sup>
- ◆ The five-year survival rate from breast cancer is about 89 percent in the United States and 76 percent in Europe. <sup>1, p. 11</sup>
- ◆ In developing countries like India, more than 2/3 of women are not diagnosed until their cancers are locally advanced or have already metastasized.<sup>2</sup>
- ◆ In developing countries, breast cancer is more commonly diagnosed in young women. By 2020 researchers expect over 3/4 of new breast cancer cases among women under age 55 to be found in developing countries.<sup>3</sup>

### Global Women's Cancer Facts

- ◆ Of the more than 12 million new cancer cases expected worldwide, some 5.7 million are expected to be diagnosed in women.<sup>1, p.1</sup>
- ◆ More than half of these women – 3.3 million – will die, most in developing countries where resources and information is scarce.<sup>1, p.1</sup>
- ◆ Breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in women worldwide (1.38 million new cases expected)<sup>4</sup>, followed by cervical cancer (555,100 cases expected)<sup>1, p.23</sup>, and colo-rectal cancer at almost 537,000.<sup>1, p.1</sup>
- ◆ According to the latest data available, the estimated number of new cancer cases (all cancer) in 2007 for North America is 1,745,400.<sup>1, cover</sup>
- ◆ Lung cancer is expected to be diagnosed in about 440,000 women globally.<sup>1, p.1</sup>
- ◆ Breast cancer is the leading cancer killer of women worldwide, with an estimated 458,000 deaths predicted.<sup>4</sup>
- ◆ Lung cancer is the second leading cancer killer of women worldwide with more than 376,000 deaths expected.<sup>1, p.1</sup>
- ◆ Cervical cancer kills more women in the developing world than any other cancer. More than 85 percent of annual cervical cancer deaths occur in developing parts of the world:
  - 70,000 cases in Africa
  - 48,000 in Latin America
  - 160,000 in Asia.
  - India, the second most populous country in the world, accounts for 27 percent of the total cases, according to WHO data.<sup>1, p.23</sup>
- ◆ The five-year survival rate from breast cancer is about 89 percent in the United States and about 76 percent in Europe.<sup>1, p.10</sup>
- ◆ In developing countries like India, more than two-thirds of women are not diagnosed until their cancers are locally advanced or have already metastasized.<sup>2</sup>
- ◆ In developing countries, breast cancer is more commonly diagnosed in young women. By 2020 researchers expect over 75 percent of new breast cancer cases among women under age 55 to be found in developing countries.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [American Cancer Society, Global Cancer Facts & Figures 2007](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Cancer Institute Chennai, India](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Globocan 2002](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Globocan 2008](#)