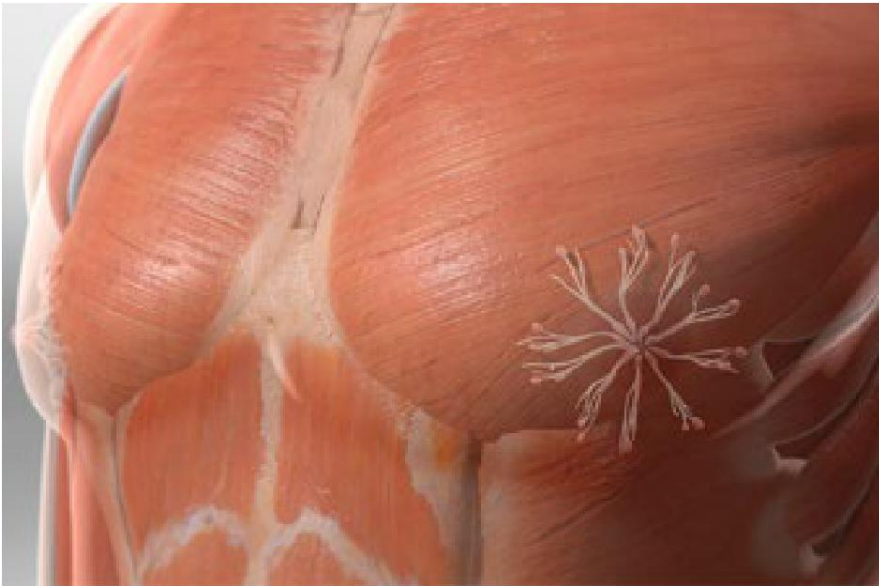




Male Breast Cancer



Overview

We tend to think of breast cancer as a disease that affects only women. But in rare cases, men can get this cancer, too. Let's take a moment to learn more about it.

How can males get breast cancer?

First, how is it possible for males to get breast cancer? Well, all babies are born with a small amount of breast tissue. Even though it doesn't grow in males during puberty like it does in females, it's still there. Men have milk ducts and milk-producing glands. And cancer cells can form in them.

Risk factors

So, who gets this cancer? It's most common in older men. Your risk is higher if you have a family history of breast cancer. It's also higher if you are obese, or if you have taken drugs or have a medical condition that raises estrogen levels in your body. And, you have a higher risk if you have a problem that affects your testicles.

Symptoms

What are the symptoms? You may feel a lump or a thickness under your skin. Your nipple and the skin around it may start to look different. You may have redness or scaly skin. Your nipple may turn inward. And, you may have a discharge from your nipple.

Treatment

Treatment depends on the stage of your cancer. We may be able to remove it all with surgery. You may need other things, like radiation therapy or chemotherapy, too. Your doctor will create a plan that's right for you.