1 in 8 women will get breast cancer — the most common cancer in women.

40,000 women die from breast cancer each year.

75% of women who get breast cancer are of “average risk” — with no family history of the disease or other high risk factors.

1 in 6 breast cancers are found in women ages 40–49.

Starting yearly mammograms at age 40 has helped cut breast cancer deaths by more than 40 percent.

• Mammograms can find tumors too small to be felt.

• Small cancers are easier and less costly to treat, and have a better chance for cure.
Mammograms cannot detect all cancers and can detect tissue that may look like cancer but is not.

- About 10 percent of women who get a screening mammogram will need additional imaging, usually just another mammogram or an ultrasound. One to two percent will need a needle biopsy.

- These issues can cause anxiety, but must be weighed against the potential benefits of early detection of breast cancer.

- Early detection decreases breast cancer deaths and can minimize treatment needed to cure.

All women should have a risk assessment by age 30 to see if they are at increased risk — particularly black and Jewish women.

- Just being a woman makes you at “average risk” for breast cancer. That risk increases with age.

- Some women are at higher risk — including those with a family history of breast cancer or a known genetic mutation.

- These women may benefit from additional screening or other preventive measures.

For more information, visit MammographySavesLives.org.