

by Harriston L. Bass, Jr., M.D.

Breast Cancer

Breast cancer is an abnormal uncontrollable tissue growth which affects 1 of 10 or 9% of all females during their lifetime (27% of all cancers). There are three new cases every 15 minutes and over 100,000 new cases each year. It is 100 times more common in females than males.

The exact initiating factors of breast cancer are not clear. However, there is an increased chance of getting it if one is in a high risk group:

- 1) has had previous breast cancer;
- 2) Has close relatives with the disease, e.g., mother, grandmother or sister; or
- 3) As one increases in age, but the peak growth is between 45-55 years old.

This abnormal growth may occur in various parts of the breast and form specific types of cancers. There is a high frequency of more than one malignant growth at a time in the same breast. If this growth is not treated

early, it may spread outside the breast, e.g., to the lungs, bone, armpit, lung, liver, etc.

The most common presentation of breast cancer is a lump (85%). This mass is usually non-tender, fixed, irregular and may have associated skin changes (less than 7%). Seven percent may present with a bloody drainage from the nipple.

The optimal management for breast cancer is early detection, treatment and possible reconstruction. Doing bimonthly self examinations as instructed by your physician will allow you to detect abnormal changes earlier.

A special X-Ray of the breast called a mammogram may detect lesions prior to their becoming clinically detectable. The current recommendations by the American Cancer Society are:

- a) 35-40 years of age: a baseline or initial mammo-

gram to serve as a basis for future comparison;

b) 40-49 years of age: women without symptoms should have a mammogram every year or two, depending on risk factors;

c) over 50 years of age: a mammogram every year. Women with personal or familial history of breast cancer may need more frequent examinations.

Mammography will fail to detect up to 15% of breast cancers (false negative). It is inadequate as a diagnostic tool to characterize the nature of the mass. A mammogram should be thought of as a technique for screening and as a road map for localization. A biopsy should not be delayed if a lesion is suspicious.

If an abnormal mass is detected by physical examination and/or by mammogram, a sample of the tissue should be removed for evaluation under the microscope (biopsy). If the biopsy tests

WHY YOUR FOODS AND DRUGS ARE SAFE

The federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act that helps keep our food and medical purchases safe was signed into law by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt 50 years ago on June 25, 1938, amid predictions it would send America further into depression and would arrest medical progress.

You can understand the economic concern: The Stock Market had crashed on

positive for cancer, the sample tissue must be checked for its response to hormone manipulation. If the patient has any signs or symptoms of disease out of the breast, an evaluation should be done with appropriate testing.

The treatment of breast cancer only within the breast may be by removal of part or all of the breast tissue (mastectomy) and/or by local radiation. The type of local therapy will depend on the patient's preference, the tumor size and the type and extent of involvement. Disease which has spread beyond the breast requires chemical or hormonal therapy which may cure or control the abnormal growth. Breast reconstruction should be considered before and after the primary treatment.

Therefore, early detection by physical examination and/or mammogram and early treatment will lead to optimal results.

Oct. 28, 1929, and if you hadn't lost your job or your farm or your home, well, then you might consider yourself pretty lucky.

Once-successful men now sold apples on the street.

And odds were, according to the investigative writers of the day, that the apples might have arsenic residue on them! Six persons in California were poisoned in 1931 by greens sprayed by lead arsenate as a pesticide. A Philadelphia girl, 4, died in 1932 after eating sprayed fruit.

Although your physician might treat you with effective drugs — such as digitalis, nitroglycerin, barbiturates and morphine — there were no antibiotics or polio vaccines or cures for childhood leukemia. A diagnosis of tuberculosis meant months of total rest in a sanatorium.

Yet to read some of the ads, no further progress in medicine was necessary. B&M External Remedy was advertised as a germicide that could cure gripe, asthma, coughs, colds and blood poisoning — and breast cancer as well. And, although insulin had been used successfully for diabetes beginning in 1922, dozens of products continued to be advertised as curing it without insulin or even a change of diet.

These patent medicines did not even have to list such harmful ingredients as arsenic or strychnin.

Unfortunately, as the Depression got worse, some companies were too often ready to peddle worthless or dangerous drugs and diluted or tainted foods. But people feared that new requirements might further hurt business.

Debate ended when disaster struck — the deaths of dozens of children in 1937 from an untested drug called Elixir of Sulfanilamide. That

assured passage of the new law, including a landmark requirement that drugs be proved safe and be approved by the FDA, before being marketed. (About half the applications currently gain approval. The others are rejected for unproven safety or effectiveness, or withdrawn.)

In some cases, FDA historian Wallace Janssen says, the Act caused drug manufacturers to hire their first chemists! The law made good science possible and profitable — by making good scientific work necessary to get a drug or device on the market, and by eliminating the undermining competition of unproved and quack products.

Some of the many ways you benefit from the law:

Today's food labels tell the ingredients and whether there are artificial colors, flavors or preservatives. Where nutrients have been added, full nutrition labeling is provided.

Today's nonprescription products actually work. That's a simple change, but a radical departure from 50 years ago.

Today's cosmetics no longer contain scarring, blinding chemicals. But beyond the specifics and beyond the new authority was a major shift: No longer was the law to be, primarily, a criminal statute aimed at punishing manufacturers and distributors after death, disability, fraud or illness had occurred.

Today's medical devices, when appropriate, must bear directions for safe use, as well as warnings, when needed.

But beyond these specifics was a turnaround in attitude: The emphasis was changed toward standards that would prevent problems. Instead of picking up filthy products after they were on the market FHA now inspected canner-

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS CONCERNED

Pursuant to NRS 108.228, Nevada Statutes, notice is hereby given that on June 21, 1988, Contract Bid Number CA 796-87, between the County of Clark and Glen Carroll Construction, for Relocation of a Geodesic Dome to Paradise Park, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, has been completed.

All creditors having claims against this contract must file their claims within forty (40) days after acceptance.

LORETTA BOWMAN, County Clerk and ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Clark County Commissioners, Clark County, Nevada
Published: Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice
June 23, 1988

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS CONCERNED

Pursuant to NRS 108.228, Nevada Statutes, notice is hereby given that on June 21, 1988, Contract Bid Number CA 714-87, between the County of Clark and Jensen Construction and Development, Inc., for Improvements to Moapa Valley Roads, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, has been completed.

All creditors having claims against this contract must file their claims within forty (40) days after acceptance.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS CONCERNED

Pursuant to NRS 108.228, Nevada Statutes, notice is hereby given that on June 21, 1988, Contract Bid Number CA 731-87, between the County of Clark and Ladd Construction, Inc., for Drainage Improvements to the Flamingo Wash, Van Buskirk Channel, Rawhide Channel and North Fork Channel, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, has been completed.

All creditors having claims against this contract must file their claims within forty (40) days after acceptance.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS CONCERNED

Pursuant to NRS 108.228, Nevada Statutes, notice is hereby given that on June 21, 1988, Contract Bid Number CA 401-85, between the County of Clark and Skyline Building Company, for construction of the Searchlight Senior Center Improvements, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, has been completed.

All creditors having claims against this contract must file their claims within forty (40) days after acceptance.

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