

VA Breast Cancer Screening for Hispanic Veterans



SHOULDER to SHOULDER
Every Step of the Way

Get Screened for Breast Cancer

VA recommends routine screenings for breast cancer to improve disease outcomes. The earlier the cancer is detected, the more successful the cancer treatment can be, potentially reducing the need for extensive treatments such as chemotherapy.

Hispanics are the largest ethnic minority in the United States. There are currently more than 1.4 million Hispanic Veterans living in the United States and Hispanics represent 7% of the total Veteran population. Veteran women are more racially and

ethnically diverse than Veteran men, and the population of women Veterans is expected to grow to almost 18% by 2040.

The good news is that almost three-quarters of Hispanic Veterans who are eligible for VA health care receive their care through VA and do so regularly and more frequently than the overall Veteran population. VA wants to deliver all Hispanic Veterans the health care and benefits they deserve and have earned.

Key Facts

- There are approximately 213,000 Hispanic women Veterans in the United States in 2023.
- Breast cancer is the most common cancer (and the leading cause of cancer death) among Hispanic women.
- Hispanic women tend to be diagnosed with more advanced breast cancers than white women.

Stage 1A breast cancer has a



99%

SURVIVAL RATE
if detected early

Who Should Get Screened?

- Women 40-44 years old should have the opportunity to begin annual screening mammogram
- Women 45-54 should be screened every year
- Women 55+ should be screened every other year or have the opportunity to continue screening annually

How VA Can Help

VA's Breast and Gynecologic Cancer System of Excellence screens for and aggressively treat the breast and gynecologic cancers impacting Veterans. VA has over 70 facilities with on-site mammography and offer screening at convenient locations in the community.



VA's Center for Minority Veterans has resources and holds engagement events around the country and virtually for Hispanic Veterans to learn more about VA enrollment and benefits.



If you have questions about cancer care or screening options available at VA, visit cancer.va.gov.



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800-698-2411

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