

# METASTATIC BREAST CANCER | U.S. DISPARITIES

As the world becomes more interconnected virtually, disparities that were once obscured by distance, culture or language have now become more apparent and pertinent to address.

## GLOBAL EPIDEMIOLOGY



In 2020, breast cancer surpassed lung cancer as the most commonly-diagnosed cancer in the world,<sup>i</sup> and the metastatic form of the disease was estimated to be responsible for a majority of the **685,000 deaths**.<sup>ii</sup>

Breast cancer incidence rates are highest in Australia/ New Zealand, Northern and Western Europe (e.g., UK, Sweden, Finland and Denmark), Southern Europe (Italy) and North America.<sup>iii</sup>

Approximately **170,000 women** in the U.S. are estimated to be living with metastatic breast cancer (MBC).<sup>iv</sup>

## U.S. DISPARITIES

### RACIAL

- Since **1990**, breast cancer death rates dropped **26% in Black women compared to 40% in white women**.<sup>v</sup>
- Despite a slightly lower incidence rate for being diagnosed with breast cancer, Black women have a **41% higher death rate** from the disease.<sup>v</sup>
- Hispanic women are less likely than white women to receive appropriate and timely breast cancer treatment.<sup>vi</sup>
- Black and Hispanic women **are more likely to be diagnosed at the metastatic stage** of the disease versus white women because of issues related to accessing high-quality healthcare, including:<sup>vi</sup>



FEWER  
SCREENING  
MAMMOGRAMS



A LACK OF  
OR DELAY IN  
FOLLOW UP



RECEIPT OF CARE AT  
LOWER RESOURCED  
OR UNACCREDITED  
FACILITIES

### EDUCATIONAL

Women with low income or education levels have a **more advanced breast cancer stage at diagnosis** compared to women at higher income and/or education levels.<sup>vii</sup>

### ECONOMIC

A lack of, or inadequate health insurance is another factor driving breast cancer disparity among women.

- **2x:** The rate at which Black women are uninsured and depend on public insurance compared to white women.<sup>vii</sup>
- **4x:** The rate at which women who do not have health insurance are more likely to be diagnosed with a more advanced stage of the disease.<sup>viii</sup>



Women who are in a lower income tier are not always able to take time off from work to receive early detection care such as mammography screenings.<sup>v</sup>

- Higher mortality after a diagnosis of breast cancer in low socio-economic status areas can be associated with several factors including:<sup>ix</sup>
  - » Cultural and behavioral factors tied to risk of disease
  - » Educational and access factors tied to early detection
  - » Economic, sociocultural, and healthcare structural problems tied to cancer treatment

While there are treatments available to delay progression or worsening of the cancer and prolong survival, the disparities in the treatment and care of MBC in the U.S. and globally must be addressed to give patients the best chance of fighting this disease. That's why we're committed to ensuring our clinical research programs are designed to recognize and seek to understand any differential in efficacy or safety within diverse populations, guided by evolving scientific understanding.

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