



## The Facts about Latinas & Breast Cancer



- Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among Latinas.
- Only 38% of Hispanic women age 40 and older have regular screening mammograms (x-ray of the breast).
- Latinas are more likely to put off seeing a doctor if they have symptoms of breast cancer. This results in developing a more serious stage of breast cancer later on.
- Not feeling able to communicate clearly with a health care provider is one reason Latinas put off getting a mammogram.

- Latinas are more likely than white women to state that they did not get a mammogram because their doctor didn't tell them they should.
- Latinas are more likely to die from their breast cancer compared to white women.
- Latinas may be less comfortable talking about sexual body parts like breasts.
- Minority women are less likely to have medical insurance and a regular healthcare provider.
- Latinas, more than any other group, rely on family to make breast cancer treatment decisions.



Sources: Blackman & Masi, [Journal of Clinical Oncology](#) (2006)  
Hirschman, Whitman, Ansell, [Cancer Causes Control](#) (2007)  
[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)  
<http://www.latinabca.org>