

Mayo Clinic Minute

Mammography declines in breast cancer survivors

Video	Audio
	Getting an annual mammogram may be uncomfortable, but it can also save lives, including those of breast cancer survivors.
	The problem, says Dr. Kathryn Ruddy, a breast cancer oncologist at Mayo Clinic, is many breast cancer survivors are not getting the recommended screenings ...
	... especially younger women and black women.
Kathryn Ruddy, M.D. Medical Oncology Mayo Clinic	“Black women were less likely to have mammograms than white women. This is a concern and may be contributing to the poorer prognoses we see in black women with breast cancer.”
	Dr. Ruddy says clinicians need to better help patients coordinate their tests. And she hopes survivorship care plans may help improve the rate of mammograms, as well.
	“These are documents that describe for a patient at the end of cancer care what the diagnosis was, what were the treatments received, and what to do going forward.
	As uncomfortable as a mammogram might be, Dr. Ruddy wants breast cancer survivors to know ...
	“... if they have breast tissue left, it is really important that we both screen for recurrence and also look for new cancers.”
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Vivien Williams