



## Mayo Clinic Minute: Rainbows Cancer Clinic helps LGBTQ+ community navigate

### breast cancer

Receiving a breast cancer diagnosis involves many emotional and medical decisions. For members of the LGBTQ+ community, the experience may be further complicated by stigma and discrimination.

To address these barriers, Dr. Elizabeth Cathcart-Rake, a Mayo Clinic oncologist led the effort to launch the Rainbows Cancer Clinic. This clinic is designed to support LGBTQ+ people with breast cancer, providing clinical expertise and research to improve care and outcomes.

Video	Audio
	Having an open, honest conversation with your healthcare team is important, but some LGBTQ+ people may feel unsafe – and that may lead to delays in seeking care.
Elizabeth Cathcart-Rake, M.D. Oncology Mayo Clinic	"Our goal is to take folks through that initial diagnosis all the way through treatment, symptom control, end-of-life care, palliative care and/or survivorship."
	Mayo Clinic's Dr. Elizabeth Cathcart-Rake has three goals for the Rainbows Cancer Clinic: offer a welcoming, affirming space; provide clinical expertise; and research to improve care.
	Improving care is critical, she says, because cancer outcomes are poorer in this community.
	"I don't think we understand exactly why that's the case, and so being able to identify where the issues are and where we can act is super important."
	Dr. Cathcart-Rake offers a word for patients.
	"My goal of this clinic is to make sure that I'm advancing your cancer care with a lens toward supporting your identity and your goals."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm DeeDee Stiepan.