

# Male breast cancer

Breast cancer can also occur in men, but its incidence is a **hundred times lower** than in women.

## Risk factors

Risk factors are similar to those in women and include older age, family breast cancer, exposure to higher estrogen or ionizing radiation, infertility or obesity. About 5% of cases are associated with Klinefelter's syndrome and reduced male gonadal function. About 10% of cases have been diagnosed with a germline mutation in the BRCA2 gene .

## Clinical picture and pathology

The pathology of breast cancer in men is quite similar to that of breast cancer in women. However, ER (estrogen-receptor) positivity is much more common in men's cancer. The tumor usually presents as **palpable subareolar mass** or **nipple discharge**. Due to the small amount of breast tissue , the lesion is superficially and easily grows into the chest wall and into the skin with **ulceration** . The tumor metastasizes to the same sites as female breast cancer , predominantly to the lungs, brain, bones, and liver. Axillary lymph node metastases are present in approximately 50% of cases at the time of diagnosis. The prognosis is identical to the prognosis of breast cancer in women.

## Links

### Related articles

- Glandula mammae
- Klinefelter's syndrome

### External links

- Even men have breast cancer (<https://www.rakovinaprsumuzu.cz/>)

### References

- KUMAR, [edited by] Vinay, Vinay KUMAR and Jon C. Aster; with illustrations by James A PERKINS. *Robbins and Cotran pathologic basis of disease: [object Object]*. 9th edition. Philadelphia: Elsevier Saunders, c2015. ISBN 9781455726134 .
- SEVERSON, Tesa M and Wilbert ZWART. A review of estrogen receptor / androgen receptor genomics in male breast cancer. *Endocr Relat Cancer* [online] . 2017, vol. 24, no. 3, pp. R27-R34, also available from < <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28062545> >. ISSN 1351-0088 (print), 1479-6821.