

# TRIPLE NEGATIVE BREAST CANCER

## Questions for my doctor

- Which treatments do you recommend for me and why?
- When will treatment start? How long will I be in treatment?
- What are the possible side effects? How long will they last? Which ones should I report to you?
- What clinical trials can I join?

## What is ShareForCures?

ShareForCures is a breast cancer research registry by Susan G. Komen, connecting scientists with information from people who have or had breast cancer. When you share your breast cancer data with our registry – along with all other participants – you will help scientists make new discoveries faster.



## What is triple negative breast cancer (TNBC)?

TNBC is a type of breast cancer in which the tumor cells do not have estrogen receptors, progesterone receptors, or large amounts of HER2/neu protein on their surface. Knowing whether breast cancer is triple negative is important in planning treatment. TNBC is:

- Estrogen receptor-negative (ER-negative)
- Progesterone receptor-negative (PR-negative)
- HER2-negative

## Who gets TNBC?

About 15 to 20% of breast cancers in the U.S. are TNBC. Anyone can get TNBC, but they seem to occur more often in:

- Younger women
- Black women
- People who have a *BRCA1* inherited gene mutation

TNBC may also be more common among Hispanic women compared to white women. People with TNBC are recommended to get **genetic testing**.

This fact sheet is intended to be a brief overview. For more information, visit [komen.org](http://komen.org) or call the Komen Patient Care Center's Breast Care Helpline at 1-877 GO KOMEN (1-877-465-6636) Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. ET and Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET or email at [helpline@komen.org](mailto:helpline@komen.org). Se habla español.

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## Resources

### Susan G. Komen

1-877 GO KOMEN  
(1-877-465-6636)  
[komen.org](http://komen.org)

### National Cancer Institute

1-800-4-CANCER  
(1-800-422-6237)  
[cancer.gov/clinicaltrials](http://cancer.gov/clinicaltrials)

### Triple Negative Breast Cancer Foundation

1-877-880-TNBC (8622)  
[tnbcfoundation.org](http://tnbcfoundation.org)

### Breast Cancer Trials

1-888-282-7099  
[breastcancertrials.org](http://breastcancertrials.org)

## Related online resources:

- [Breast Cancer Prognosis](#)
- [Clinical Trials](#)
- [Genetics and Breast Cancer](#)
- [Racial and Ethnic Differences in Breast Cancer in the U.S.](#)
- [Question to Ask Your Doctor – Inherited Gene Mutations and Breast Cancer Risk](#)
- [Support After a Breast Cancer Diagnosis](#)
- [Breast Cancer 101 Interactive Tool](#)
- [Research Fast Facts - TNBC](#)

## Treatment options for early TNBC

Early TNBC is usually **treated** with some combination of:

- Surgery
- Radiation therapy
- Chemotherapy
- Immunotherapy
- PARP inhibitor therapy

Early TNBC tends to respond better to chemotherapy than some other types of breast cancer.

Some people with early TNBC may have cancer remaining in their breast after neoadjuvant chemotherapy (given before surgery). In these cases, the chemotherapy drug capecitabine after surgery may lower the risk of **recurrence** and improve survival.

## Treatment options for metastatic TNBC

TNBC is treated with chemotherapy. Some people with metastatic TNBC may also get other drug therapies including:

- Immunotherapy
- Trop-2 antibody-drug conjugate therapy
- PARP inhibitor therapy
- HER2-low therapy

## Clinical trials

**Clinical trials** test the safety and possible benefits of new treatments. They also test new combinations or new doses of standard treatments. People volunteer to join these trials. Joining a clinical trial offers you the chance to try a new treatment and possibly benefit from it.

If you're newly diagnosed with TNBC, consider joining a clinical trial. Talk with your doctor or call our Breast Care Helpline at 1-877 GO KOMEN (1-877-465-6636) or email at [clinicaltrialinfo@komen.org](mailto:clinicaltrialinfo@komen.org) for more information.

**BreastCancerTrials.org** in collaboration with Susan G. Komen® offers a matching service to help you find clinical trials on TNBC.

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