

# WHY DOES IT MATTER WHERE YOU GO TO TREAT BREAST CANCER?

HERE'S WHY: ADVANCED RADIATION  
THERAPY AT RIVERSIDE CAN REDUCE  
TREATMENT TIME.



## Life's Victories begin with early detection

The story to the right and a lot of other successful stories begin with early breast cancer detection through mammography screening. It's a woman's best hope in the fight against breast cancer.

Radiation therapy relies on high energy rays to stop cancer from growing. As part of a team approach to breast cancer care, radiation therapy is often used after surgery to destroy remaining cancer cells and may be used to shrink the size of a tumor before surgery.

At Riverside, our Radiation Oncologists use several tools to produce the best outcomes for each patient. They may administer external beam radiation with highly precise intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT), or internal radiation using the MammoSite® Radiation Therapy System (RTS). The new MammoSite RTS delivers radiation directly to the surgical site and reduces treatment time for many early stage breast cancer patients.

In addition to innovative radiation treatments, Riverside Cancer Services offers a full range of breast cancer care including state-of-the-art diagnostic imaging and testing, advanced surgical procedures, and patient-focused medical oncology. American College of Radiology (ACR) accreditation for Riverside's radiation oncology program assures the highest level of quality.

Talk with your doctor or call for more information about Riverside Cancer Services. Because when it comes to breast cancer, it really does matter where you go.



**For more information call  
1-800-520-7006  
[www.riversideonline.com](http://www.riversideonline.com)**

# Life's Victories

BREAST CANCER STORIES

## Lilly Chambers: *A survival experience to relate to*



Lilly Chambers, who works as a mammographer at Riverside Walter Reed Hospital, is embarrassed that she ever had cancer. Not because she was ashamed that she was diagnosed with the disease, but because her fight against it was such an “easy” battle.

“The diagnosis didn’t frighten me — I work with cancer every day. I know the statistics, I know how good the treatments are and what the percentage of survival is. I wasn’t intimidated at all by it. I just said, ‘This is what it is and they can fix it.’ And it all went very well.”

None-the-less, Lilly did have surgery and went through a total of 33 radiation treatments. But her super-positive attitude about the whole thing now translates to providing better service for her patients.

“This has helped me as a mammographer because now I’ve had all of these procedures and I can say to the patients, ‘Look, don’t panic about this. I did beautifully and you’re going to get through this, too.’ Then if they ask me personally where I went and who my doctors were, I can share that with them as well. I really like that aspect of patient care — helping them feel comfortable in an frightening situation.”

Lilly attributes the success of her surgery and recovery to early detection.

“Nobody likes mammograms, not even me. But I’ve had them every year for the last 20 years. My last mammogram showed a slight change in the number or the size of the calcifications, and that usually indicates something is happening. So my radiologist said, ‘If you were my mom, wife or sister, I’d go ahead and have a biopsy.’ So I did. When I was told they were positive, they actually arranged for me to have an appointment with a doctor the very next day.”

So now when patients ask her if it’s important to have a mammogram every year, Lilly enthusiastically replies, “YES MA’AM! Over the years mammograms can show changes, and when found they should be checked out. It might just save your life!”