



Comanche County  
Health Department

Date: May 10, 2016  
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## **Now Is the Time to Get Screened for Breast and Cervical Cancer**

During the month of May, Brandie O'Connor, regional administrative director for the Comanche County Health Department, wants to remind all women to get screened for breast and cervical cancer.

Oklahoma's late stage cancer rate is declining at a much slower rate when compared nationally. In the U.S., the percentage of late stage breast cancer diagnosis is 26% and cervical cancer is 17%. In Oklahoma, the percentage of late stage breast cancer diagnosis is 29% and cervical cancer is 53%.

Breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer among Oklahoma women and is the leading cause of cancer death among women. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends that women 50-74 years of age should have a mammogram every two years.

Thanks to early detection and treatment, those diagnosed with cervical cancer are living longer, healthier lives. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends that women 30 to 65 years of age receive a Pap test and human papillomavirus infection (HPV) testing every five years, or a Pap test only every three years.

O'Connor wants to remind women in Comanche County that there are multiple opportunities to get screened for breast and cervical cancer. Breast and cervical cancer screenings are covered through some insurance companies without co-pay.

Comanche County Health Department urges you to call your healthcare provider and schedule your appointment today! If a woman does not have health insurance coverage for breast and cervical cancer screenings, they may qualify for free breast and cervical cancer screenings through the Take Charge! Program. Women who are low income, not insured and between the ages of 50-64 should call 1.888.669.5934 and talk to the Take Charge! Patient Navigator to find out if they qualify for free screenings.

