

NEWS RELEASE

North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System | Office of Communication & Outreach



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, October 18, 2021



OCTOBER
Breast
CANCER
AWARENESS
MONTH



North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System encourages Veterans to access breast health services during Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Gainesville, Fla. — The [North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System \(NF/SGVHS\)](#) is encouraging women Veterans to get screened for breast cancer during October, Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Breast cancer is the second most common cancer in women and is the second leading cause of cancer death in women. Localized breast cancer has a 99% survival rate if detected early.

“VA encourages all women Veterans to speak with their health care providers about breast health and get checked and treated for breast cancer,” said Cheryl Tillman, women Veterans program manager. “We recognize that some Veterans may have missed their regularly scheduled mammogram due to COVID-19 and encourage women Veterans to reach out to their VA health care provider to get one scheduled.”

During Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and throughout the year, the NF/SGVHS offers high quality women's health care, including breast care services. "VA leads the nation's health care systems in providing mammograms to those who need them," said David Isaacks, Executive Health System CEO/Director. "Every VA medical center has a Women Veterans Program Manager to ensure women Veterans have access to appropriate care and treatment."

Breast care resources available through VA include screening and diagnostic mammograms, breast ultrasound and MRI, genetic counseling and testing, cancer treatment and more. VA recommends regular breast cancer screening for women who are 45 years of age and older, though some women may choose to start screening with yearly mammograms as early as age 40. Women should talk with their VA primary care provider team about what is best for them and schedule their mammogram.

For more information, visit: [Women Veterans - North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System \(va.gov\)](https://www.va.gov/women-veterans-health-system/).

About the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System

NF/SGVHS is one of the nation's largest VA healthcare systems employing more than 5,800 medical professionals and support staff dedicated to providing high quality care to Veterans residing throughout North Florida and South Georgia. The organization operates 14 facilities to include two medical centers located in Gainesville and Lake City, a domiciliary and clinics located throughout a 50-county service area.

MEDIA CONTACT:

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*"...to care for him who shall have borne the battle
and his widow, and his orphan..."*
- President Abraham Lincoln



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System

Malcom Randall and Lake City VA Medical Center's

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The North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System is one of the nation's leading VA healthcare systems, employing more than 5,600 medical professionals and support staff dedicated to providing high quality care to Veterans residing throughout north Florida and south Georgia. The organization operates fifteen facilities to include two medical centers located in Gainesville and Lake City, and clinics located throughout a 50-county catchment area.

To learn more about the facilities and services offered by the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System, please visit www.northflorida.va.gov or "like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/VANFSG>, follow us on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/VANFSG/> or follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/vanfsg>

For any questions about the content of this message, please contact the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System Office of Public Affairs at 352-348-7130 or email vhanflpublicaffairs@va.gov.