

Charity: There Isn't Just One Face to Breast Cancer – with Audio Descriptive Transcript

Audio Descriptive Text

- At 27, Charity was diagnosed with stage three inflammatory breast cancer.
- Photos of Charity before and after breast cancer treatment.
- Chart showing the rounds of radiation therapy.
- Charity consulted with a genetic counselor and fertility specialist.
- Charity walking with a bar bell around the Washington D.C. area.
- She took steps to reduce her ovarian cancer risk. Charity taking notes regarding her therapy and results.
- No matter your age, know your risk of breast cancer.
- The last screen shows the logos for the *Bring Your Brave* campaign, CDC and HHS, and directs viewers to visit <http://www.cdc.gov/bringyourbrave>.

Video Summary

When Charity was diagnosed with breast cancer at 27, she faced a series of difficult decisions. Learn what steps she took to be proactive about her health and her cancer risk – and what she wants young women to know about their health.

Audio Script

[Charity] My name is Charity and I am 31 years old and I live in Washington, D.C.

[music playing]

[Charity] For fun I like to do stand up comedy.

[Person 1] Welcoming to the stage

[applause]

[Charity] Around September of 2012, I felt a lump in my breast. I went to a doctor and they figured that I was young, that I should just probably keep an eye on it, if it got worse, come back.

Gradually over time it was progressively getting worse. And about three days into being in the hospital, the cancer had eaten through my breast.

I really didn't have time to sit and think about what was going on, what was going to happen...

I went through, total, eight rounds of chemotherapy, double mastectomy, non skin sparing, and then I went through 33 rounds of radiation.

I decided to get genetic testing and counseling and I tested positive for the BRCA2 mutation.

I'm predisposed to breast cancer, ovarian cancer, skin, pancreatic and stomach cancer, [sigh] which is scary in its own right. I decided to be proactive in my health.

Having BRCA2, I made the decision to have both of my ovaries removed. That was a big decision for me to make. Single. Never had children. And I was in the middle of chemo.

After everything was over, it was a real shock to kind of like get back into, you know, normal life and trying to decide what was best for me.

Humor is my way of getting through difficult things. Always has been, probably always will be, and I felt like I needed to share that with other people.

It felt like, I have a story that's not really like anyone else's.

I think doing the comedy allows me to tell people that breast cancer just doesn't happen to someone that's 75 years old.

You need to take your health seriously. Talk to your doctor. There isn't just one face to breast cancer.

[music fades]