KNOWLEDGE IS POWER. OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



What is Breast Cancer Awareness Month?

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month, an annual worldwide campaign committed to increasing awareness and promoting regular breast cancer screening and early detection efforts.

About this kit:

This kit was designed to help reduce the burden of breast cancer in Montana through providing social media tips and tricks designed to spread both awareness and increase education about screening and prevention efforts.

Who should use this kit?

This kit was created for health care providers, public health professionals, and community organizations in Montana that want to expand their social media reach during Breast Cancer Awareness Month. You will find suggested sample social media messaging that you can post as is or alter to fit your intended audience.

Breast Cancer in Montana

1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some point in their life and in 2022 alone over 43,000 are expected to die from the disease, making breast cancer the second most diagnosed cancer and cause of cancer related death

among women.¹ For Montana women, breast cancer is the most diagnosed cancer and the 2nd leading cause of cancer related death.² On average, 920 women are diagnosed throughout the state annually with invasive breast cancer.³

Symptoms of breast cancer

Different people have different signs and symptoms of breast cancer, while some people do not have any signs or symptoms at all.⁴

Some warning signs include a lump in the breast or underarm (armpit), thickening or swelling of part of the breast, irritation or dimpling of breast skin, redness or flaky skin in the nipple area or the breast, pulling in of the nipple or pain in the nipple area, nipple discharge other than breast milk, any change in the size or the shape of the breast, and pain in any area of the breast.⁵

If you are experiencing any of the above symptoms, speak with your provider today, and remember that these symptoms can happen with other conditions that are not cancer.⁶

Screening and prevention

A mammogram is the best test doctors have to find early signs of breast cancer. It is completed by taking an X-ray picture of the breast.⁷

The United States Preventative Service Task Force (USPSTF) recommends women of average risk begin screening with mammography at age 50 and continue mammograms every two years through age 74.⁸

² Montana Department of Health and Human Services, *Cancer in Montana-Annual Report 2015-2019* (Helena, Montana: Montana Central Tumor Registry, 2022) https://dphhs.mt.gov/assets/publichealth/Cancer/MCTRAnnualReportFeb2022.pdf

³ Ibid.

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "What Are the Symptoms of Breast Cancer?" last modified September 26, 2022, <u>https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/basic_info/symptoms.htm</u>.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "What is a Mammogram?" last modified September 26, 2022, <u>https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/basic_info/mammograms.htm</u>.

⁸ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "What is Breast Cancer Screening?" last modified September 26, 2022, <u>https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/basic_info/screening.htm</u>.

¹ American Cancer Society, "Breast Cancer Statistics: How Common Is Breast Cancer?" last modified January 12, 2022, https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/about/how-common-is-breast-cancer.html.

Women ages 40-49 may want to consider screening earlier and should speak with their health care provider about their options.⁹ Please see table 1 for a screening guidelines comparison from different organizations.

Organization	Age (yrs) to Start Mammography	Age to Stop Mammography	Mammography Interval
American College of Radiology/Society of Breast Imaging	40	No age limit, tailor to individual health status	Annually
American Cancer Society	45, option to start at 40	When life expectancy is less than 10 years	Annually 45-54, Every other year or annually age 55 and up
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists	Offer at 40, but no later than 50	Age 75, then shared decision making	Every 1 or 2 years
American Medical Association	40	Not Stated	Annually
American Society of Breast Surgeons	40	When life expectancy is less than 10 years	Annually
National Comprehensive Cancer Network	40	Upper age limit for screening is not yet established	Annually
United States Preventative Services Task Force	50	74	Every 2 years

Table 1: Screening Guideline Comparison of Average Risk Women

Source: DenseBreast-info.org. "Screening Guide Comparison in Average Risk Women." Last modified April 2022. https://densebreast-info.org/for-providers/screening-guidelines-comparison/

Risk Factors

The most common risk factors associated with breast cancer are aging and being a woman, but family history of both breast and ovarian cancers can drastically increase an individual's breast cancer risk.¹⁰ Know your family history and discuss it with your health care provider.

Women with dense breasts are at an increased risk for developing breast cancer.¹¹ Dense tissue and tumors have a similar appearance on a mammogram, which can cause small tumors to be missed.¹² Newer technology, such as 3D

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¹¹ American Cancer Society, "Breast Density and Your Mammogram Report" last modified March 10, 2022, https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/screening-tests-and-early-detection/mammograms/breast-density-andyour-mammogram-report.html ¹² Ibid.

¹⁰ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "What Are the Risk Factors for Breast Cancer?" last modified September 26, 2022, https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/basic_info/risk_factors.htm.

mammography, is more accurate than 2D mammography for women with dense breasts.¹³ Know your breast density and make it part of the conversation when discussing your personal risk and breast cancer screening options.

Social Media Tips and Tricks

Ask yourself WHO is my intended audience?

WHAT specific health issue(s) effects my intended audience?

WHAT social media platform is my intended audience most likely to use?

WHAT action do I want them to take?

Keep language simple and posts short. Lengthy posts get fewer retweets and engagements.

Monitor engagements and engage when appropriate. Remove or "hide" comments that could be considered harassing.

Vary content and consider adding photos, videos, and infographics to your posts.

Track what content's working and consider modifying future posts accordingly.

Don't underestimate the power of the #hashtag

#Hashtags are a great way to connect with people and can be used for pretty much anything. During campaigns, such as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, hashtags are a great way to raise awareness or to start a conversation and/or be visible in a conversation already taking place on social media. Include relevant #hashtags on your #BreastCancerAwarenessMonth social media posts and watch your post's likes, shares, comments, and even new followers increase!

Popular #hashtags for Breast Cancer Awareness Month:

#breastcancerawarenessmonth #breastcancerawareness #breastaware #checkyourboobs #knowyournormal #knowyourrisk #knowyourbreats #knowyourlemons #knowledgeispower #october #pinkoctober #pink #pinkoctober #thinkpink #pinkribbon #breastcancersurvivor

No need to reinvent the wheel!

There are numerous free infographics and videos available from various organizations. Some great resources can be found here:

African American Cancer Alliance, Inc.

https://aabcainc.org/

American Indian Cancer Foundation

https://americanindiancancer.org/acif-resource/breast-cancer-infographic/

American Cancer Society

https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer.html

Breastcancer.org

https://www.breastcancer.org/

Breast Cancer Now

https://breastcancernow.org/

CDC

https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/buttons.htm

Food and Drug Administration

https://www.fda.gov/consumers/take-time-care-program/pink-ribbon-guide-mammography-matters

GW School of Medicine & Health Sciences

https://cancercontroltap.smhs.gwu.edu/resources/breast-cancer-awareness-month-campaign

Metastatic Breast Cancer Network

http://mbcn.org/october-13-national-metastatic-breast-cancer-awareness-day/

National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc.

https://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/

National Cancer Institute

https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/patient/breast-screening-pdq

Susan G. Komen

https://www.komen.org/support-resources/tools/komen-education-materials/

Sample Messages and graphics:

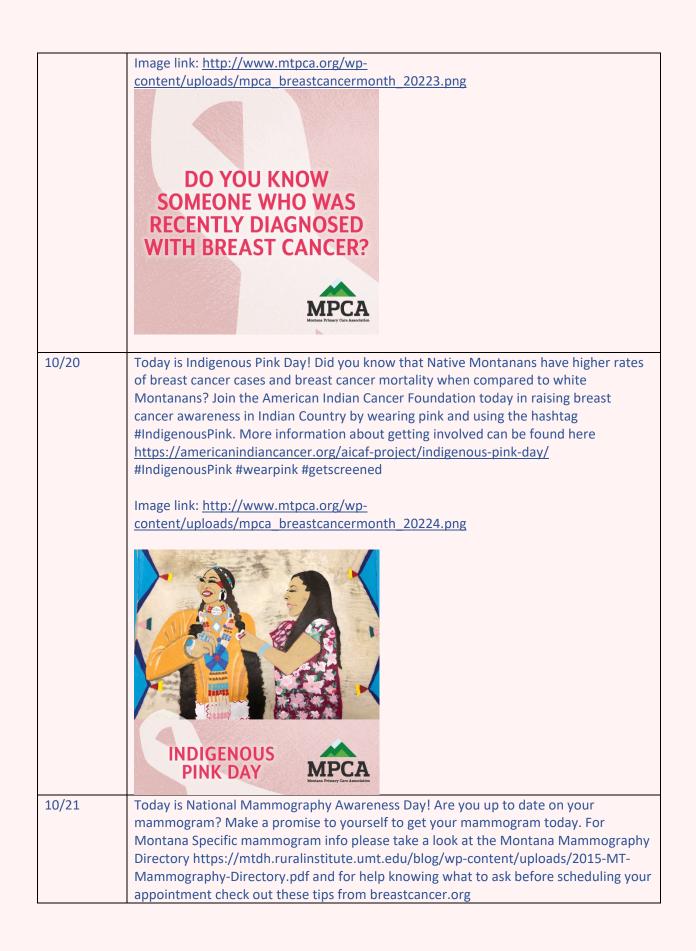
Date	Sample Social Media Post
10/1 October 1 st is the first day of Breast Cancer Awareness month! Learn more abo	
	own risk here: https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/basic_info/risk_factors.htm
	#breastcancerawarenessmonth #thinkpink #pinkoctober #knowyourrisk

	Image link: <u>http://www.mtpca.org/wp-</u>
	content/uploads/mpca breastcancermonth 20222-1.png
10/2	#BreastCancerAwarenessMonth is a great time to spread awareness about breast cancer screening and prevention, but is also a time to honor and support breast cancer survivors and those seeking treatment for breast cancer. It's also a special time to reflect and remember those who have lost their battle with breast cancer. Learn more about you can get involved here <u>https://www.komen.org/how-to-help/</u> #breastcancerawarenessmonth #cancersurvivor#fight#thinkpink Image link: <u>http://www.mtpca.org/wp-</u> content/uploads/MPCA_BC_Women_1080x1080.png
	Screening can detect breast cancer when it's most treatable. Talk to your provider today.
10/3	Breast cancer is a disease in which the cells of the breast grow out of control, and is the second most common cancer among women, after skin cancer. Learn more about breast cancer symptoms here: <u>https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/basic_info/symptoms.htm</u>
	#knowyourboobs #checkyourboobs
10/4	Be breast aware! Knowing what feels and looks normal for your own breasts may help you notice symptoms, such as lumps, change in size, and pain, that may be of concern. Learn more about breast self-exam here: <u>https://www.breastcancer.org/screening- testing/breast-self-exam-bse</u> #breastaware #knowyourboobs #breastcancerawareness Image link: <u>http://www.mtpca.org/wp-</u>
	content/uploads/mpca_breastcancermonth_2022-1.png

10/5	Breast cancer screening looks for signs of the disease before there are symptoms. Screening may help find breast cancer early when it's easier to treat and less likely to spread to other parts of the body. Learn more about screening options here: <u>https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/patient/breast-screening-pdq</u> #breastaware #breastcancerawarenessmonth #knowledgeispower
10/6	A mammogram is the most common breast cancer screening test. It takes an x-ray picture of your breast and may help find breast cancer in its earliest stages. Learn more about the different kinds of mammograms, what happens during a mammogram, and more here <u>https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-</u> <u>cancer/screening-tests-and-early-detection/mammograms/mammogram-basics.html</u> #checkyourboobs #breastaware
10/7	Did you know that smoking is associated with an increased risk of developing breast cancer? Quitting can be really hard and isn't something you have to do alone! Learn more about the tobacco cessation programs that the Montana Quit Line has to offer here <u>https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/mtupp/quitline</u> #breastcancerprevention
10/8	Although rare, men can get breast cancer too. Learn about symptoms and what can increase risk of breast cancer in men here <u>https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/men/index.htm</u> #breastcancerawarenessmonth
10/9	There are breast cancer risk factors that you cannot change, such as inheriting certain genes that make your risk of getting breast cancer higher. Learn more about these risk factors here <u>https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/risk-and- prevention/breast-cancer-risk-factors-you-cannot-change.html</u> #knowledgeispower
	Image link: <u>http://www.mtpca.org/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/mpca_breastcancermonth_2022.png</u>

	KNOWLEDGE IS POWER, Screeening can detect breast cancer when it's most treatable. Talk to your provider today.
10/10	Being diagnosed with breast cancer and undergoing treatment can take a toll on your mental health. In honor of world mental health day, check out this mental health toolkit designed to help support the mental health of women with breast cancer <u>https://breastcancernow.org/information-support/facing-breast-cancer/living-beyond-breast-cancer/life-after-breast-cancer-treatment/coping-emotionally/your-mental-health-toolkit #pinkoctober #worldmentalhealthday</u>
10/11	What is breast density and how can it impact your health? Learn more here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=504mCaNo7hE #knowyourboobs Image link: http://www.mtpca.org/wp- content/uploads/mpca_breastcancermonth_20222.png WHAT IS BREAST DENSITY AND HOW CAN IT IMPACT YOUR HEALTH?
10/12	What do breast cancer stages mean? Learn more here https://www.breastcancer.org/pathology-report/breast-cancer-stages #breastcancerawarenessmonth
10/13	Today is National Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day. Metastatic breast cancer affects over 155,000 people across the country. Metastatic means that a case of early staged breast cancer has spread outside of the breast to other parts of the body. Learn

	more about metastatic breast cancer here <u>http://mbcn.org/october-13-national-</u>
	metastatic-breast-cancer-awareness-day/
	#nationalmetasticbreastcancerawarnessday #pinkoctober
10/14	There has been a lot of buzz about BRCA 1 and BRCA 2 genes lately, but what are these
	genes? Learn more from genetic counselor about these genes and what gene
	mutations can mean for your health here
	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HooBqnpIdDY
	#knowledgeispower #breastcancerawarenessmonth #breastaware
10/15	Members of the LGBTQ community are at an increased risk for developing breast
	cancer. Learn more here https://www.breastcancer.org/videos/cancer-screening-for-
	the-lgbtq-community
	#breastcancerawarenessmonth #chestcancerawarenessmonth
	Image Link : <u>http://www.mtpca.org/wp-</u>
	<pre>content/uploads/MPCA_BC_lgbtq1080x1080.png</pre>
	KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.
	KITOWEEDGE IST OWER.
	Screening can detect
	breast cancer when it's most treatable.
	Talk to your provider today.
10/16	Jennifer was diagnosed at age 27 with breast cancer has been fighting ever since.
	Learn more about her story here
	https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/young_women/bringyourbrave/stories/jennifer/i
	<u>ndex.htm</u>
	#breastcancerawarenessmonth #thinkpink
10/17	Having the conversation about your family history of breast cancer can be challenging,
	but it's an important step in understanding your own risk of developing breast cancer.
	Listen to this short video here about what to ask and how to begin to conversation
	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbVN7zlUGh8
	#knowyourhistory #knowledgeispower #thinkpink
10/18	Did you know that women with a disability are less likely to have received a
	mammogram during the past two years? Learn more here
	https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/breast-cancer-screening.html
	#thinkpink #breastcancerawarenessmonth
10/19	Have you or someone you know been recently diagnosed with breast cancer? Learn
	more about what to expect here https://breastcancernow.org/information-
	support/facing-breast-cancer/diagnosed-breast-cancer
	#thinkpink #pinkoctober #fight



	https://www.breastcancer.org/screening-testing/mammograms/where-to-get-
	mammogram
	#knowyourrisk #knowledgeispower #nationalmammographyawarenessday
10/22	It's confusing to know when you should begin regular breast cancer screenings, but your health care provider can help! Talk to them today about your individual risk and what screening options are right for you. Find tips and tools that may help with that conversation here https://www.komen.org/breast-cancer/treatment/getting-quality- care/talking-with-your-doctor/ #breastaware #thinkpink #breastcancerawarenessmonth
10/23	Did you know that Black women are more likely to develop forms of breast cancer that can spread more quickly? Visit the African American Breast Cancer Alliance's website today for educational resources and support specifically tailored to help African Americans impacted by breast cancer <u>https://aabcainc.org/</u> #thinkpink #spreadawareness #breastaware
10/24	Uninsured or underinsured? You may qualify for free or low-cost breast cancer screening through Montana's Cancer Screening Program. Learn more here https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/cancer/cancerscreening #thinkpink #breastcancerawarenessmonth Image link: http://www.mtpca.org/wp-content/uploads/mpca_breastcancermonth_20225.png VININSURED OR DURINSURED OR DURINSUMED OR </th
10/25	A breast cancer diagnosis is scary and overwhelming. Even knowing which questions to ask your care team can be confusing. American Cancer Society has put together a list of questions that may help you make informed decisions about both life and treatment. Learn more here <u>https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-</u> <u>cancer/understanding-a-breast-cancer-diagnosis/questions-to-ask-your-doctor-about-</u> <u>breast-cancer.html</u> #breastcancerawareness #knowledgeispower
10/26	Did you know that 1 in 8 women will be diagnosed invasive breast cancer in their lifetime? Learn more about what you can do to reduce your risk here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nYM2CcuhS4E #thinkpink

	Image link: http://www.mtpca.org/wp- content/uploads/mpca_breastcancermonth_20226.png IIN 8 WOMEN Will be diagnosed invasive breast cancer in their lifetime.
10/27	Questions about cancer? The National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service helps patients, providers, friends, and family answer their cancer related questions through telephone, e-mail, and live chat. Learn more about this resource here <u>https://www.cancer.gov/contact</u> #knowledgeispower #breastaware
10/28	Alcohol use can increase your risk for developing breast cancer. Learn more here <u>https://www.breastcancer.org/risk/risk-factors/drinking-alcohol</u> If you or someone you know is struggling with alcohol use visit SAMHSA's website for help today <u>https://www.samhsa.gov/find-treatment</u> #prevention #breastaware
10/29	Cancer survivorship can come with a lot of questions and concerns about what to expect after treatment. Find more information here <u>https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/living-as-a-breast-cancer-survivor.html</u> #cancersurvivorship #breastcancersurvivor
10/30	What is triple negative breast cancer? Learn more about this type of breast cancer that accounts for 15% of diagnosed breast cancers here <hr/> https://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/triple-negative-breast-cancer#breastaware #knowyourrisk
10/31	Today is the last day of #BreastCancerAwarenessMonth, but don't forget that breast cancer awareness is more than just a month! Let's continue to remember those who've lost their battle with breast cancer and take the pledge to get screened, raise awareness, and support breast cancer survivors and those seeking breast cancer treatment. #breastaware #thinkpink #getscreened

Montana Breast Cancer Resources

American Cancer Society in Montana

https://www.cancer.org/about-us/local/montana.html

Cancer Support Community Montana

https://cancersupportmontana.org/

Montana American Indian Women's Health Coalition

https://mtcancercoalition.org/montana-american-indian-womens-health-coalition-maiwhc/

The Montana Cancer Coalition

https://mtcancercoalition.org/about/

Montana Cancer Screening Program

https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/cancer/cancerscreening

References

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https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/about/how-common-is-breast-cancer.html.

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https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/screening-tests-and-earlydetection/mammograms/breast-density-and-your-mammogram-report.html.

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2022, https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/basic_info/risk_factors.htm.

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https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/basic_info/screening.htm.

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https://densebreast-info.org/for-providers/screening-guidelines-comparison/.

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Montana Central Tumor Registry, 2022. https://dphhs.mt.gov/assets/publichealth/Cancer/MCTRAnnualReportFeb2022.pdf.