

How Medicaid Expansion Helped Young Women With Breast Cancer

A study led by researchers at the American Cancer Society looked at 51,000 women ages 18 to 39 who had been diagnosed with breast cancer.

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New Study Shows Medicaid Expansion Improved Treatment and Survival for Young Women with Breast Cancer

In a new study by researchers at [the American Cancer Society](#) (ACS), Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act was associated with an increased receipt of timely, guideline-based treatment and improved two-year survival among young women newly diagnosed with stage I-III breast cancer. The findings [were presented] at this year's annual meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) in Chicago, June 2-6.

Using the National Cancer Database, researchers, led by [Dr. Xuesong Han](#), scientific director, health services research at the American Cancer Society, and Dr. Xu Ji, reviewed data on more than 51,000 women ages 18-39 who had been diagnosed with breast cancer between 2011-2018 and compared data before and after Medicaid expansion and in expansion and non-expansion states. They examined how many women received guideline-based treatment such as surgery, or chemotherapy within 60 days of diagnosis as well as two-year survival rates.

According to study results, among all women diagnosed with stage I through stage III breast cancer, Medicaid expansion was associated with increased receipt of guideline-concordant treatment, reduced delays in treatment initiation, and improved two-year overall survival.

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