

# BREAST CANCER IN GAZA

## THE BARRIERS ON THE JOURNEY TO RECOVERY FOR PALESTINIAN WOMEN LIVING UNDER OCCUPATION

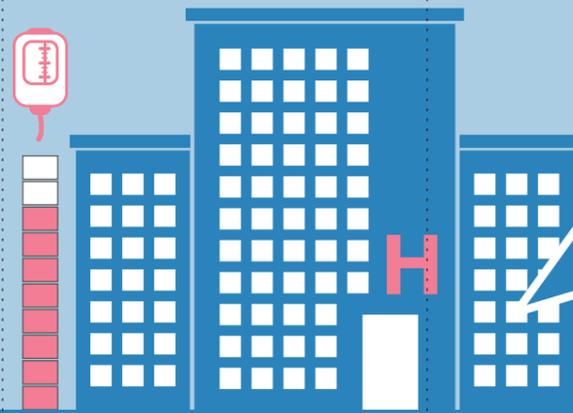
### 1 DIAGNOSIS

In the UK, **over 70%** of women aged 53-70 screened for breast cancer, meaning most cancers are caught earlier



### 2 CHEMOTHERAPY

Chemotherapy readily available for patients through the NHS.



### 3 SURGERY

World-class surgeons offer various surgical options, including breast reconstruction after cancerous tissue is removed.



### 4 RADIOTHERAPY

Radiotherapy available across the UK. Over **90%** of patients start treatment within 31 days of a decision to treat breast cancer.



### 5 RECOVERY

**4 out of every 5** women live longer than five years after being diagnosed



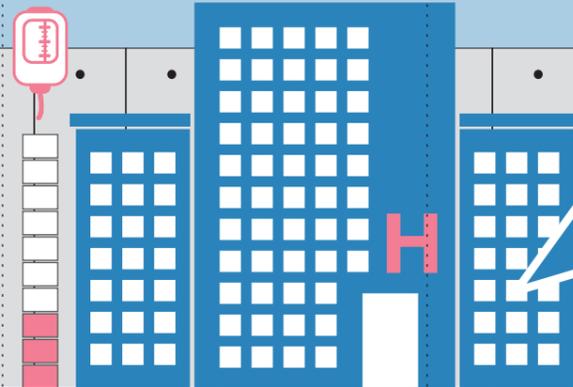
UK

GAZA

There are only three mammograms available for screening in Gaza, and one is out of order. Limited services and cultural factors mean diagnosis is often late.



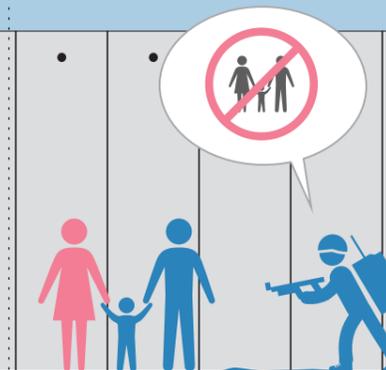
Chemotherapy medications often run out of stock, meaning treatments are interrupted and less effective. **17%** of cancer drugs were at 'zero stock' (less than one month's supply on shelves) in August 2016.



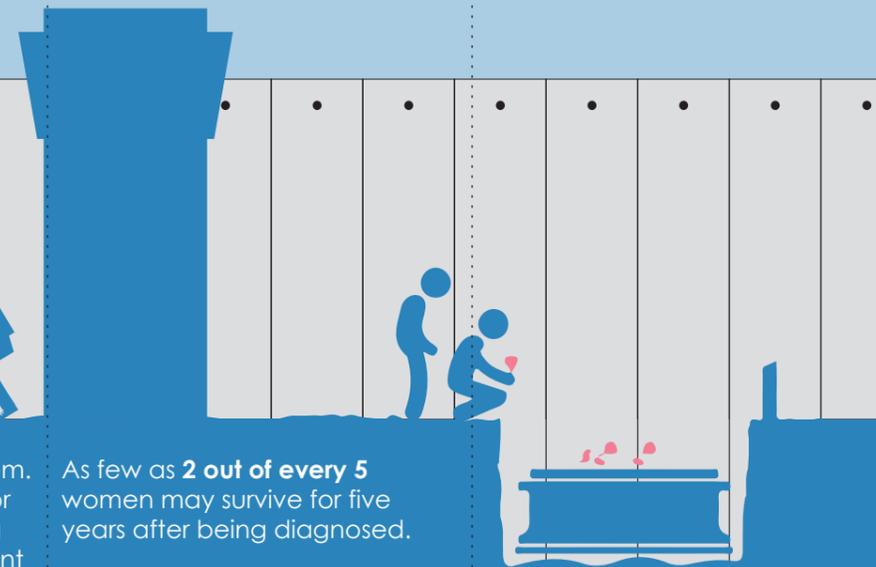
Many surgeons are prevented from leaving Gaza to update and specialise their skills. The rate of precautionary mastectomy and lymph node clearance surgery is higher due to frequent radiotherapy treatment delays.



Only available in East Jerusalem. Patients must apply to Israel for permission to exit Gaza, risking interrupted care. **30%** of patient permits were denied or delayed in first half of 2016. **42%** of permits for family members accompanying patients were denied or delayed in July 2016.



As few as **2 out of every 5** women may survive for five years after being diagnosed.



Take action and support Palestinian women with breast cancer living under occupation and blockade: [www.map.org.uk/breastcancer](http://www.map.org.uk/breastcancer)



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Sources: Cancer Research UK, Palestinian Ministry of Health, WHO, Physicians for Human Rights - Israel