

Well I think having myself checked [because] . . . my mother died from breast cancer and . . . When I found out I had cancer I cried, I just left my room . . . I told my friend that I was going home, that I had cancer and she said, "You're going to be ok". "I know," I said, "I have to be alone." . . . And I think of it--the first time I start crying . . . when I found out but after, . . . I knew I had it . . . I just didn't cry over it cause it's not going to help. And I think that's about all I have to say.



Georgianna D.
[Fort Bend]

Depression

(translated by daughter, Caroline) Ah, mother had a difficult time dealing with and adjusting to her situation. She ended up being hospitalized for depression for three months. For me that was extremely difficult to have to . . . , see her reaction that way because . . . I was certain she understood the procedure before it was done. It became obvious afterwards that she didn't really understand what was going to happen to her and her reaction to that was the depression. . . At one point when the depression was very severe, I went to her and asked her, 'Would it be better for you, to have me see if the doctors would remove my right breast so that you could have it? Would that help?'



Frances Johnson
[Fish River Inupiaq]