

**Table 3. STAGES OF BREAST CANCER**

<b>Stage</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Stage IIIA (T0-3, N1-2, M0)</b>	Cancer is less than 2 inches across (5 centimeters) and has spread to lymph nodes under the arm which have grown into each other or into other structures and are attached to them; or cancer is bigger than 2 inches across (5 centimeters) and has spread to lymph nodes under arm.
<b>Stage IIIB (T4, any N, M0 or any T, N3, M0)</b>	Cancer has spread to tissues near the breast (chest wall, including the ribs and the muscles in the chest); or cancer has spread to lymph nodes near collarbone.
<b>Stage IV (any T, any N, M1)</b>	Cancer has spread to other organs of body, most often the bones, lungs, liver or brain.
<b>Inflammatory breast cancer</b>	Rare breast cancer. Breast has red appearance and warmth. Skin may show signs of ridges and wheals or may have pitted appearance. Tends to spread quickly.
<b>Recurrent</b>	Means cancer has come back after it has been treated. May come back in breast, in muscles of chest (chest wall) or in another part of body.

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## Lumpectomy

### Questions to Ask About Radiation with Breast-Conserving Surgery

- When will the treatments begin? How long will each treatment take? When will all the treatments end?
- Who will be responsible for my radiation treatments? Who will be giving them? Where will they be done?
- What kind of short-term and long-term side effects will I have? What are the risks of this treatment?