

NAPBC now surpasses 100 accredited centers mark

The National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC) has announced that the number of centers that it has accredited has surpassed the 100 mark, and that its accredited breast centers can now be found in 38 states, including Alaska and Hawaii. To date, 120 breast centers have successfully completed the NAPBC's rigorous evaluation and review process. NAPBC accreditation is given only to those breast care centers that have voluntarily committed to provide the highest quality care in breast disease diagnosis and treatment, and that have demonstrated compliance with the accreditation program standards.

The NAPBC is a consortium of national, professional organizations dedicated to the improvement of the quality of care and the monitoring of outcomes for patients with diseases of the breast. Bringing together leaders from the major medical disciplines that routinely work together to diagnose and treat breast disease, this multidisciplinary group created 27 program standards and 17 program components of care that collectively provide the most efficient and contemporary care available for patients diagnosed with diseases of the breast. NAPBC-accredited breast centers have met the criteria set forth for each discipline treating breast disease patients.

When a breast center applies

for NAPBC accreditation, it does so with the understanding that it will offer a multidisciplinary approach to diagnosing and treating breast disease. Moreover, the center must be willing to undergo a rigorous application process and on-site survey to assure its patients that NAPBC standards are being met. Accredited breast centers also agree to maintain their high level of clinical care with recertification by the NAPBC, which is required every three years.

NAPBC-accredited breast centers offer the following:

- A complete range of state-of-the-art services
- Multidisciplinary team approach to coordinating the best available treatment options
- Information regarding ongoing cancer clinical trials and

new treatment options

- Access to prevention and early detection programs, cancer education, and support services

- Ongoing monitoring and improvements in cancer care

Administered by the College, the NAPBC began developing its program in 2005, and the formal process of surveying breast centers for accreditation started in September 2008. With a multidisciplinary membership, the NAPBC pursues its mission through standard-setting, scientific validation, and patient and professional education. To learn more about the National Accreditation Program of Breast Centers and to view the complete list of NAPBC-accredited breast centers, visit: <http://www.accreditedbreastcenters.org>.

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The CoC is a multidisciplinary program of the American College of Surgeons. Sponsored jointly by the Commission on Cancer and the American Joint Committee on Cancer.

 