

The Survey

A telephone survey commissioned by the Society for Women’s Health Research and administered by the Roper Organization (as part of NOP World), was conducted among a national sample of 300 postmenopausal women diagnosed with early breast cancer. Respondents met the following criteria:

- ◆ Had completed three or more years of adjuvant hormonal therapy (such as tamoxifen) and are still receiving that therapy, or
- ◆ Had completed five or more years of adjuvant hormonal therapy (such as tamoxifen) within the past two years

Of 300 completed telephone interviews, 177 were with women nearing completion of the therapy and 123 with those who completed therapy.

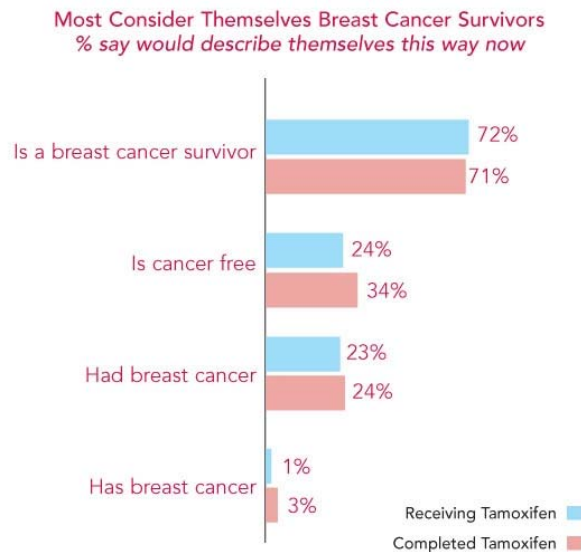
The Results

The survey results demonstrate that women who have overcome early breast cancer are generally positive about their future but still worry about the chance that their cancer might come back. According to the survey, these women say they do not have all the information they want or need to accurately identify the general risk that their cancer will recur, and indicate that they find much of the information about breast cancer confusing. Somewhere in the communication process between these patients and their health care professionals there is a breakdown.

Perceptions of Risk of Recurrence

The majority of patients look to the future

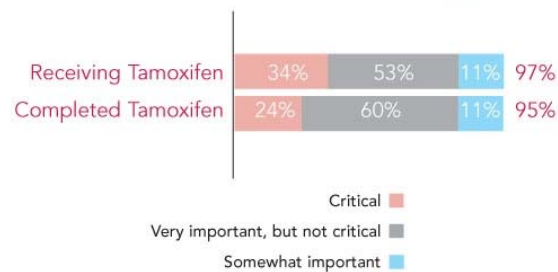
- ◆ 71% of the women who had completed tamoxifen therapy and 72% of women who were currently receiving tamoxifen considered themselves a “breast cancer survivor.”
- ◆ Of those, 34% and 24%, respectively, considered themselves “cancer free.”



A significant number of women haven't discussed risk of recurrence with their health care professionals

- ◆ Nearly 25% of women who had completed adjuvant hormonal therapy and 40% of the women still receiving such therapy report never having discussed their risk of recurrence with their health care professional.
- ◆ However, 95% of all the women surveyed say they want to learn everything they can about preventing recurrence.
- ◆ Also, more than eight of 10 women surveyed (84% completed and 87% still receiving adjuvant hormonal therapy) believe that it is “critical” or “very important” that they do everything they can to reduce the risk of their breast cancer returning.

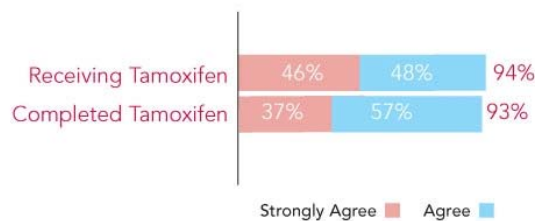
Most Consider It Important To Do Everything They Can To Reduce Risk of Recurrence
% say it is important to do everything you can to reduce the risk of breast cancer returning



Majority of women rely on their health care professionals to help them weigh the pros and cons of new treatment options

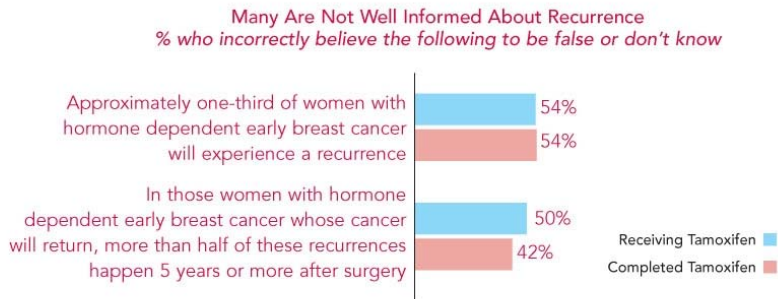
- ◆ Of all women surveyed, 93% of women who completed adjuvant therapy and 94% of women still receiving tamoxifen indicate they depend on their health care professional to help them evaluate the pros and cons of new treatment options.

Most Turn To Their Health Care Professionals For Advice About Treatment Options
% who agree that they depend on their health care professionals to help them weigh the pros and cons of new treatment options



A majority of women don't have complete information about the significance of risk of recurrence

- ◆ More than half of women say they do not realize that approximately one-third of women with hormone dependent early breast cancer will experience a recurrence.
- ◆ 42% of women who had completed adjuvant hormonal therapy and 50% of those still receiving such therapy say they did not know that more than half of recurrences occur five years or more after surgery.



Most women seek risk of recurrence information from sources other than their health care professionals

- ◆ 40% of all the women surveyed (40% completed and 38% still receiving adjuvant hormonal therapy) report that they rely on newspapers and magazines for information about risk of recurrence.
- ◆ More than 30% of women surveyed say they find information on risk through online sources.

