

consent--to--the--treatment-of-breast-cancer educate certain patients in a certain manner about the methods of treatment available for breast cancer; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to provide a standardized written summary containing certain information about breast cancer; providing for an exception; providing a penalty for failure to educate a breast cancer patient about available treatments in a certain manner; making the provisions of this Act supplemental and additional to any requirements now existing upon a physician; providing for a delayed effective date; and generally relating to the treatment of breast cancer.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health Occupations  
Section 14-504(25) and (26)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1981 Volume and 1985 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Health Occupations  
Section 14-504(27)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1981 Volume and 1985 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Health - General  
Section 20-113 to be under the new part "Part IV. Breast Cancer"  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1982 Volume and 1985 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, The fear of breast cancer and the dread of possible disfigurement as a result of treatment for it are common to all women; and

WHEREAS, Recent medical developments have rendered it unnecessary for many women with breast cancer to undergo the drastic operation commonly known as radical mastectomy; and

WHEREAS, Some physicians are not aware of these developments or conversant with these methods of treatment for breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, The physician has the ultimate responsibility for choosing a treatment that is tailored for the individual patient under the circumstances; and