

Soundbite script – A rise in cancer in people under 50

Deborah Oyelowo, Family Nurse Practitioner, OSF HealthCare

“This is a downside of what happened with COVID. A lot of patients did not get the time and the appointments to have an actual one-on-one with their providers for screenings. Younger people do not know exactly what to look for. By the time the symptoms show up, it's reached a progressive stage. And they don't believe that cancer can exist in the younger population, but unfortunately it does.” (:37)

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“And when I say screening, I also mean self-exams. All patients need to know the proper way of doing a self-exam, especially the female population. When something is not right don't wait till things are really bad before you reach out to your provider.” (:15)

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“Everyone needs to be an advocate for themselves. I realize doctors are responsible for knowing things, but they can only know things you tell them. They cannot see through you. You need to come, talk, communicate and have an established relationship with your providers.” (:14)