

### **Rate of prophylactic bilateral mastectomy rising**

The percentage of women diagnosed with unilateral breast cancer who chose to have prophylactic contralateral mastectomy tripled from 2002 to 2012, researchers reported in the Annals of Surgery. Ten-year survival, however, was roughly the same as for women who chose breast-conserving surgery or unilateral mastectomy. More than 86% of women who test positive for a BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation choose double mastectomy, and recent research found that more than half the women who test negative for a mutation choose double mastectomy anyway. [United Press International](#) (3/14)