

A third chance for a young breast cancer patient

VIDEO	AUDIO
NATS of bell ringing	
Jessica Florence Patient	"Tomorrow is not promised to any of us. And if I can make today count that's what I'm gonna do."
	Jessica Florence was just 21 when she found a lump on her right breast.
Jessica Florence	"When I think of breast cancer, I think of you know an older woman 40, 60 but not 21-22."
	With no family history of breast cancer and a healthy lifestyle, Jessica was concerned.
Jessica Florence	"My gynecologist told me that it could not be breast cancer because I was too young to have breast cancer."
	But her instincts led her to seek a second opinion. By the time someone paid attention, she was diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer.
Sabrina Sahni, M.D. Breast Health Specialist Mayo Clinic	"African American women are twice as likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer earlier when compared to Caucasian women, and unfortunately, have three times the mortality rate."
	<p>After surgery, radiation and chemotherapy, Jessica was looking forward to renewed health.</p> <p>But within months, her cancer was back. This time in her spine.</p> <p>Knowing she needed other options, Jessica turned to Mayo Clinic.</p>
NATS of Dr. Kostandinos Sideras	"I'm going to listen to your heart a little bit."
Jessica Florence	"I will say Mayo Clinic has been the best thing that has ever happened to me."

	Doctors like Sabrina Sahni explain younger women may not consider themselves to be at high risk, but the reality is breast cancers are diagnosed at all ages.
Dr. Sabrina Sahni	"Women across the board, regardless of ethnicity, should really be counseled to check their breasts."
	Jessica recognizes her chance to change a stigma around cancer and has chronicled her journey on social media.
Jessica Florence	"There was a community out there for me, but also there are a lot of African American women who go through breast cancer who don't tell their story."
	Dr. Sahni reminds all women – be vigilant when it comes to changes in their body.
Dr. Sabrina Sahni	"If they feel something, they should really say something about it."
NATS machine beeping	
Jessica Florence	"So, a year from now I see myself successful being that successful architect that I want to be because Mayo Clinic gave me that quality of life."