

# Secondary / Metastatic (ductal) Breast Cancer

Also known as metastatic or advanced breast cancer

After primary breast cancer be aware of these **RED flags\*** for secondary breast cancer. There are 5 main areas that secondary breast cancer can appear.



## BRAIN

Frequent headaches, vomiting (first thing in the am), dizzy, visual disturbance, seizure, impaired intellectual function, mood swings, balance, fatigue. Family members and friends may say you are not your normal self.



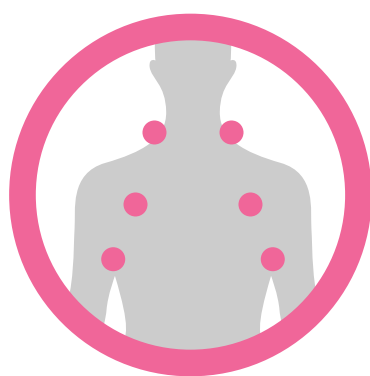
## BONE

Pain in bones — commonly thigh, arm, ribs and back. Can be dull ache or sharp shooting pain. Bone pain with no obvious cause or trauma. Report any new, unusual or increasing pain.



## LUNG

Sharp pain on breathing in chest and back area, non productive cough, fatigue, blood clots can also cause shortness of breath.



## LYMPH NODES

Swelling or lumps and pressure in chest/armpit/neck areas, dry cough.



## LIVER

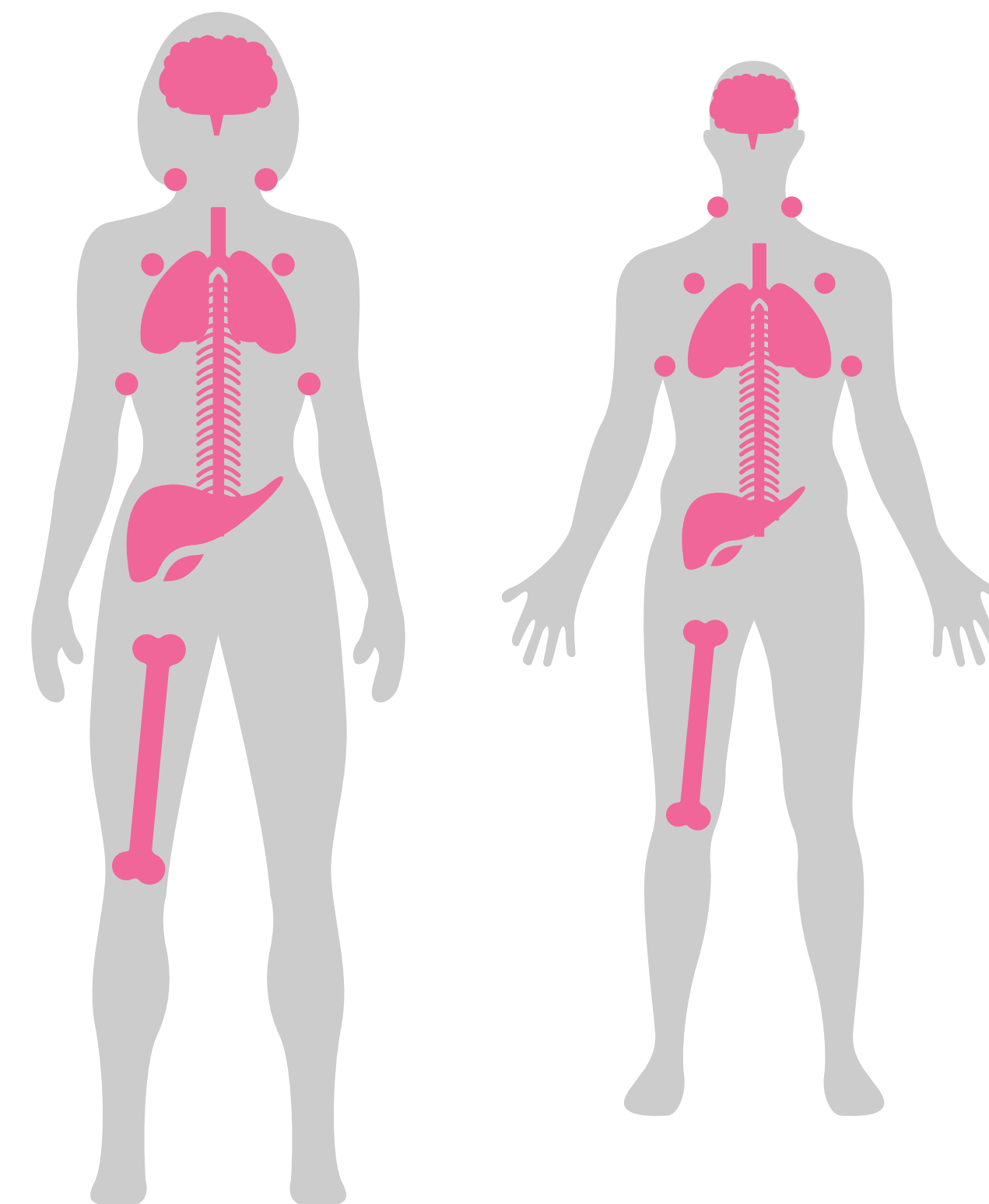
Bloating, affected appetite, weight loss, fatigue, weak, pain near ribs on right hand side.



## SPINAL CORD COMPRESSION

Rare but more common in breast cancer needs **URGENT** treatment

Pain or tenderness in middle or top of the back or neck, severe pain in lower back that gets worse or doesn't go away, pain in back that is worse when coughing, sneezing or straining, back pain that's worse at night, numbness, heaviness, a band of pain around the chest or abdomen or pain down an arm or leg, changes in sensation, for example pins and needles or electric shock sensations. **Contact your clinical team ASAP if you have these following symptoms** - weakness or difficulty using arms or legs, numbness in the area around the back passage (the saddle area), not being able to empty the bowel or bladder, problems controlling the bowel or bladder.



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**\*IF THE RED FLAG PROBLEM PERSISTS MORE THAN 3 WEEKS  
CONTACT YOUR MEDICAL TEAM DIRECTLY**

**abcd**  
After Breast Cancer Diagnosis