

00:00:02:18 - 00:00:24:20

Heidi Hayes

I was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2014. I had a small lump in my breast that I chose to ignore for, well, probably almost three months when my husband finally said, "You need to go have that checked." So I went in to see my gynecologist on a Friday before Memorial Day. By the Tuesday after, I was already at Kaiser having a mammogram.

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Heidi Hayes

Then that afternoon, a biopsy. By Thursday, I knew that I had breast cancer. Immediately I went into treatment. The following Monday, I saw my physician, Dr. Tevar, and he was fabulous. He walked me through all my options. At that point, I also had an opportunity to meet Dr. Hwang who would become my oncologist, and he shared with me some of the clinical trials that Kaiser was working on.

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Heidi Hayes

So I was able to also enter a clinical trial at that time period. We went on to do the surgery and ultimately moved into the chemotherapy treatment. I work in health care, so the physicians with whom I work really encouraged me to go back and get a second opinion. The physician whom we saw was really impressed with Kaiser Permanente and impressed with the fact that we moved through treatment so quickly.

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Heidi Hayes

We were able to see the breast surgeon in the morning, walk upstairs and see the geneticist, have a mammogram, blood work, everything under one roof one day and it was really, really quick. Had we gone with anyone other than Kaiser Permanente, that same time period of treatment could have taken actually weeks. And instead, for us, it only took a matter of days.

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Heidi Hayes

I have a wonderful relationship with Dr. Hwang. I hope he feels the same way about me. What I love about Dr. Hwang is he's extremely knowledgeable, but yet he is compassionate and he is willing to customize treatment around the individual. So when I go to see him, I feel confident that the treatment that I'm receiving isn't just the standard treatment that everyone receives.

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Heidi Hayes

But yet he takes a look at my lifestyle and he understands what's important to me, and he ensures that my treatment will allow me to maximize what I want to do in my life. So if you were going through cancer treatment, I have every bit of confidence in Kaiser Permanente and the fact that Kaiser Permanente will give you the best treatment in order to cure your cancer.