

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address October 19, 2012
“Think Pink”

Hello. This is your congressman, Michael Burgess. As most of you know, before serving in Congress, I was an OB/GYN physician for over 20 years and delivered over 3,000 babies during my years in practice. Having had the privilege of working to educate women about their health for most of my life, I know just how important prevention and early detection is for ensuring that health issues are timely noticed and resolved.

This is especially important when we talk about breast cancer. The National Institute of Health estimates that over 220 thousand women will be diagnosed with breast cancer just this year. Sadly, almost 40 thousand of them will die. If you look at just Texas, 15 thousand women will be diagnosed and 2,600 will die from breast cancer.

There are many factors that contribute to a woman’s risk in being diagnosed with breast cancer. Her age, her family history are just a few of the factors. Being diagnosed with breast cancer or learning that a loved one has breast cancer is tough. The good news is that research is making positive strides and survival rates are growing every year. In fact, there are currently five thousand clinical trials in the United States. The advancements made will mean that 99% of women diagnosed with localized breast cancer that is localized at the time of diagnosis will survive.

I am a co-sponsor of HR 466, which would allow the Postal Service to issue a stamp to raise funds for breast cancer research. For women, breast cancer is rightfully scary. It’s second only to lung cancer in cancer deaths in women. That’s why research is so vital to identifying various factors and preventable agents.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. For more information about this issue and other issues before the United States Congress, please visit my website at burgess.house.gov. May God bless you and your family, and as always, may God bless Texas.