



Mission focus

BRINGING THE LATEST EDUCATION RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC UPDATES TO OUR VOLUNTEERS & PARTNERS

Breast Cancer News

Experimental Drugs Show Promise in Treatment of Advanced Breast Cancer

According to [The Washington Post](#), two experimental drugs from Pfizer and Eli Lilly & Co., palbociclib and bemaciclib, respectively, slowed or halted the growth of advanced breast tumors in studies. While more research is needed, these new drugs could potentially add a new treatment option for patients. This class of medicine, known as cyclin-dependent kinase 4/6 inhibitors, may present an alternative option for some patients to standard toxic chemotherapy.

Overweight Male Rodents Produce Female Pups with Higher Risk of Breast Cancer

A new study presented at the AACR Annual Meeting 2014 has found that obese male mice and normal weight female mice produce female pups that are overweight at birth and in childhood, and that have increased number of “terminal end buds” in their breast tissue – the site where cancer often develops in rodents. In addition, the researchers say they’ve found evidence that obesity could change the microRNA (miRNA) signature, which is known to regulate insulin receptor signaling and is linked to breast cancer development. This study suggests that, in animals, a fathers’ body weight at the time of conception affects not only their daughters’ body weight but also their risk of breast cancer later in life. [Science Codex](#) covers the report.

Fear May Prevent Some African American Women from Seeking Cancer Screening

[Medical Xpress](#) reports on a new study which found that fear may be a key factor keeping [African American women](#) from seeking breast cancer screening. The study presented two videos to participants, and found that participants who reported fear, rather than sadness, were less likely to seek out cancer screening and less likely to remember information about what they saw.

New Test Could Lead to More Personalized Treatment

A new study led by researchers in Nottingham has developed a new clinical test which measures 10 proteins (biomarkers) found in breast cancer cells, giving researchers detailed information about a patient’s breast cancer type and its likely behavior, which could help doctors make more effective and personalized treatment decisions. [Medical Xpress](#) covers the study.

Two Genes Identified That Play a Role in Increasing Breast Cancer Risk

A new study authored by 200 researchers from around the world describes two new genes – NEIL2 and OGG1 – that influence the risk of women developing breast and ovarian cancer when they are carriers of BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene mutations. [Medical Xpress](#) covers the study.

The Complex Problems Faced by Young Women with Breast Cancer

[In a new blog post](#), Komen’s Managing Director of Health & Science Education Susan Brown recounts her recent experience at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a member of the Advisory Committee on Breast Cancer in Young Women (ACBCYW), chaired by Komen Scholar Ann Partridge. The ACBCYW helps the CDC develop evidence-based approaches to advance understanding and awareness of breast cancer among young women – a complex public health issue. applications in patients with breast tumors. This method could be used in the future to even more accurately diagnose breast cancer. [Medical Xpress](#) covers the study.

Fertility Drugs Do Not Increase Breast Cancer Risk

[Science Codex](#) reports that a new study published in *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention* has found that women who took clomiphene citrate (brand name Clomid) or gonadotropins as a part of [fertility treatment](#) did not experience an increased risk of breast cancer over 30 years of follow-up. Small increases in risk of invasive breast cancer were observed in a subset of women who were exposed to 12 or more cycles of clomiphene and in those women who were unable to become pregnant after taking the medications.

Greater Focus on Lifestyle Factors and Risk Reduction

Authors of a new report published in *CA: The Cancer Journal for Clinicians* say that if girls and women of all ages adopted [healthier lifestyle behaviors](#), and high-risk women took preventive drugs like [tamoxifen](#), half of breast cancers in the U.S. might be avoided. According to [Reuters](#), researchers from Washington University say that there’s a need to look at risk reduction strategies starting at a young age, and that more emphasis should be on using what’s already known about lifestyle factors that raise breast cancer risk.

Oral Chemotherapy Parity Bill

Good News for cancer patients! Senate Bill 99—the Cancer Treatment Modernization bill—was passed by the Senate, with only one “nay” vote by Senator Kris Jordan of Delaware. The bill will now go to the Ohio House of Representatives committee, and then hopefully be referred to the floor for a vote. We want to thank Kris Gaston and Barb DePalma for sharing their stories in this process!

SB 99 would ensure that cancer patients are not disadvantaged if the best course of treatment recommended by the physician is oral chemotherapy treatment. SB 99 just passed out of committee. **Please visit this link to an action alert, an easy way for you to contact your representatives and ask for their support on the issue.** <https://secure.info-komen.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=1246>

Coming up:

BC101 Training

Welcome to our latest KAs:
Sarah Rust
Shelly Biggs

The next BC101 is:

April 22nd, 2014, 5:30- 6:30 pm-

RSVP to Julie

Or contact

juliemcmahon@komencolumbus.org
to complete online training instead

We will schedule a Continuing Education in late May or June, and give out our next batch of KA badges!

Communications Committee

April 1st, 2014

May 6th, 2014

7:30 am, Cup of Joe Lennox

Race Committee

Don't forget to register for the 2014 race [here](#), and make sure to fundraise and maximize what we can accomplish in our mission!

Race for the Cure is approaching quickly. Make sure you register, and then, the most important piece- fundraising! Fundraising paves the way for researchers you read about in this newsletter every month and supports those who are working diligently all over the world to find a CURE. Together, we will achieve our fundraising goal of \$700,000 this Race season!

<http://www.komencolumbus.org/komen-race-for-the-cure/>

New article- Breast cancer disparities

Breast cancer takes a disproportionate toll on women of color and those of low-income and education. Disparities exist and are the result of health differences that may arise from inequities such as intentional or unintentional discrimination and/or social disadvantage, including health differences among populations according to race/ethnicity, ancestry, cultural factors, socioeconomic status, age, sexual orientation, geography, disability or other characteristics associated with social inequality or discrimination. Find out more, including Komen's efforts to reduce breast cancer disparities from our latest [Komen Perspectives](#) article.

Need for Clarity around BSA

NBC News discusses a new study published in *Obstetrics & Gynecology* which suggests that messages associated with "breast self-awareness" are unclear and may be confusing for women – many of whom still believe monthly breast self-examination to be a recommended practice. Komen's managing director of health and program education Susan Brown spoke on the issue, sharing that Komen urges women to know the signs and symptoms of breast cancer, to know their own family history and risk, to be screened appropriately and to make healthy lifestyle choices.

Healthy Eating Series

Komen Columbus is teaming up with [Whole Foods Market Dublin](#) to host a Healthy Eating Series on **Tuesday, April 29** at 6 p.m. This series will consist of several events throughout the year, and provide you with information about healthy lifestyle choices. Stay tuned for more details! Space is limited. Free to survivors, small registration cost for all others. To save your spot, email outreach@komencolumbus.org by April 23 or register here. <http://columbus.info-komen.org/site/Calendar/129681696?view=Detail&id=12216>

"Beyond Risk" Conference

Komen Columbus will sponsor the 6th Annual Beyond Risk Conference is designed specifically for individuals with Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer (HBOC). This event will provide information and management updates for carriers of BRCA mutations to promote early cancer detection and cancer risk-reduction. For more information email genetics.clinic@osumc.edu.

Worship in Pink

We will start preparing for growth in our Worship in Pink program this summer! We're recruiting an intern to help, and to also help us outreach to local companies and organizations to teach BC101 in October. Help us promote BC101 and Worship in Pink! Contact Julie for more details.



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For any questions about the Komen Ambassadors, Mission activities, research or education please contact Julie at juliemcmahon@komencolumbus.org or 614-297-8155 x 204.

Komen Scholar Lecture Series

To revisit, share, or view for the first time, the following webinars are available for streaming:

[Komen Tissue Bank](#)

[The Science of Breast Density](#)

[Breast Cancer and the Environment](#)

[Disparities in Breast Cancer Outcomes](#)

[The Impact of Metastasis in Breast Cancer](#)

Archived at:

<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6P1pBVEjB8e0IH4MuMehb-gzEIRgPGqu>