



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

## Breast Cancer News

### **Older People Denied Proper Access to Cancer Care**

A new editorial in the *British Medical Journal* claims that older people globally are being denied proper access to cancer care. The author, Professor Mark Lawler of Queens University, cites [triple negative breast cancer](#) in older women as one example of an age disparity, stating that older women with the disease receive less chemotherapy than their younger counterparts despite evidence of the treatment's efficacy in this patient cohort. [Medical Xpress](#) covers the editorial.

### **Investigating Patients at Higher Risk of Cardiotoxicity**

[Medical Xpress](#) discusses work being done at UConn Health to address the health risks that sometimes come after beating cancer. Researchers point out how chemotherapy and radiation both put patients at a higher risk of developing heart disease, including heart failure. These researchers are working to identify those patients who are at a high risk for developing cardiotoxicity so that they can be monitored more closely over time and offered cardioprotective treatment, if necessary.

### **Cancer to Become Leading Cause of Death in U.S.**

According to a new report from the American Society of Clinical Oncology, in 16 years, cancer will become the leading cause of death in the United States, surpassing heart disease. The number of new cancer cases is expected to increase nearly 45 percent by 2030, from 1.6 million cases to 2.3 million cases annually. The report also found a need for more cancer doctors, showing that private oncology practices are becoming less sustainable, and as local practices close, patients are paying more and traveling farther for quality cancer care. [CNN](#) covers the report.

### **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.

### **Vitamin D Associated with Increased Survival**

New research published in *Anticancer Research* has found that breast cancer patients who had high levels of vitamin D were twice as likely to survive as women with low levels. Authors say that the study has implications for including [vitamin D](#) as an adjuvant to conventional breast cancer therapy. [TIME](#) reports on the study.

### **7-Tesla MRI Could Be Used for Breast Cancer Diagnosis in**

A recent study out of Austria has found that 7-Tesla ultra-high-field magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) can be used for clinical 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.

### **Genetic Profiling Method Could Identify Those at Risk of Recurrence**

Findings presented at the Miami Breast Cancer Conference have found that molecular [subtyping](#) can help doctors better determine which of their breast cancer patients are at high risk of breast cancer recurrence. This method of [genetic profiling](#) offers an additional resource to help identify patients who would most benefit from chemotherapy. [Science Codex](#) reports on the study.

### **New Drug Delivery System May Lead to Reduced Side Effects**

According to [Medical Xpress](#), a new study aims to reduce side effects by delivering medication directly through the milk ducts, which will provide larger doses of the drug(s) to affected tissues. An estimated 65,000 women in 2013 were diagnosed with carcinoma in situ, a non-invasive breast cancer affecting the milk ducts. Delivering drugs directly through the milk ducts may reduce side effects from medication that normally travels through the bloodstream. More research is needed to confirm the results.

### **New Breath Test May Detect Breast Cancer**

[Reuters](#) reports that a new six-minute breath test identified women with early stage breast cancer or an abnormal mammogram screening. The study, published in the scientific journal [PLOS ONE](#), showed abnormal volatile chemicals in the breath of women with breast cancer. Overall breath test accuracy for breast cancer diagnosis was roughly 80 percent. Screening breath tests for breast cancer are experimental and more research is needed.

### **New Online Survivor Support System**

[Medical Xpress](#) reports on an innovative new service which will offer cancer survivors an online social support system and encourage individuals to find "exercise buddies," improving physical well-being and overall [quality of life](#) after treatment.

### **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 our blog to learn more about this issue and take action!** <http://komencolumbus.wordpress.com/2014/02/06/we-have-a-chance-to-make-a-difference-in-the-lives-of-cancer-patients/> We will have updates on how to help soon, but you can always start **my e-mailing your local representatives in the House!**

## Coming up:

### BC101 Training

Welcome to our latest KAs:

Kelly Wolfe  
Shelby Chapman  
Kristin Mainzer  
Danielle Algje  
Amelia Kalson  
Destiny Jones

The next BC101 is:

April 22nd, 2014, 5:30- 6:30 pm-  
RSVP to Julie

Or contact

[juliemcmahon@komencolumbus.org](mailto:juliemcmahon@komencolumbus.org)  
to complete online training instead

We will schedule a Continuing  
Education in late May or June.

### Communications Committee

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014

May 6<sup>th</sup>, 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 new sletter 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/>

## Fight against Breast Cancer in its Middle Age

Now in the fifth decade since President Nixon declared a "War on Cancer," and the fourth decade since Nancy Brinker founded Susan G. Komen, the breast cancer movement has now reached its "middle age." With age comes wisdom, and in a new blog for [The Huffington Post](#), Komen President and CEO Dr. Judith Salerno discusses the key to Komen's success in middle age and beyond: collaborations and investments in the future of research.

## 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](mailto:outreach@komencolumbus.org) by April 23.

## "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](mailto: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.



[www.komencolumbus.org](http://www.komencolumbus.org)



For any questions about the Komen Ambassadors,  
Mission activities, research or education please  
contact Julie at [juliemcmahon@komencolumbus.org](mailto: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=PL6PlpBVtB8e0IH4MuMehb-gzEIRqPGqu>