

BRCA Research Saves Lives

BRCA1 and BRCA2 (breast cancer susceptibility) are genes that help prevent cancer from developing. They repair cell damage so breast cells can grow normally. Everyone has BRCA genes. But, when BRCA is mutated, it cannot function normally and breast cancer risk increases.

Most inherited breast cancers are a result of BRCA mutations and people who have them are at increased risk; however, not all people with the BRCA mutation will get breast cancer. Nonetheless, making decisions to manage this risk can be overwhelming. Komen has long been committed to finding newer and better ways of detecting, treating and preventing cancer in BRCA mutation carriers.

Read about breast cancer survivor Terry Swain's experience and thoughts on genetic testing for BRCA mutations in our Chronicles of Hope series.

<http://sgk.mn/ltqiVtH>



Learn more about BRCA and breast cancer
<http://sgk.mn/Zq4Kmy>

Our Research Investment

More than **\$36 million** in over **110 research grants** and **25 clinical trials** focused on BRCA and breast cancer

What We're Investigating



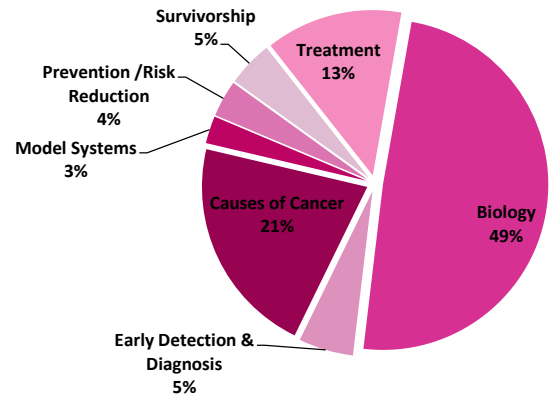
Developing new ways to prevent breast cancer in BRCA mutation carriers, including new drugs, hormone therapies and dietary approaches



Identifying environmental or hormonal factors that may contribute to breast cancer risk in women with the BRCA mutation



Understanding how BRCA mutations lead to breast cancer so that targets for new drugs can be identified



Topic Area of Investment



Survivors at the 2012 Bahamian Race for the Cure

What We've Learned from Komen-funded research



Different populations have different BRCA mutations, which may affect their risk of developing breast cancer



Women from the Bahamas appear to be twice as likely to have a BRCA1 mutation than the general population



Newly identified risk factors may help predict which women with the BRCA mutation will get breast cancer



Learn more about breast cancer



More Komen-funded Research Stories



Get Involved & Support Komen Research