An Urgent Call for Health Equity in Breast Cancer

Addressing breast cancer health disparities is at the forefront of what Susan G. Komen does. Komen CEO Judy Salerno wrote about the pressing importance of addressing these disparities and the key steps Komen is taking in this fight in a powerful Huffington Post blog post. You can read her post and learn more about where research fits into our larger approach to achieving health equity here.

Continuing on this theme, Dr. Salerno also recently published an article about how Komen’s efforts to understand and eliminate health disparities fit into the broader priorities of Vice President Joe Biden’s Cancer Moonshot. You can find this piece on the Cancer Moonshot website, here.

A Focus on Men’s Breast Cancer for Men’s Health Month
During the month of June, Komen honored Men’s Health Month by publishing two blog posts featuring male breast cancer survivors. The first post, which you can read here, featured one of our recent hotline callers and shared some important warning signs of breast cancer in men. The second post shared the personal story of male breast cancer survivor and advocate Wayne Dornan and why he now wears his diagnosis as a badge of honor. You can read that post here.

**Komen Leadership News and Views**

**Transforming Women’s Health in Bosnia**

In addition to her piece on breast cancer health equity, Dr. Salerno also wrote a blog for the Huffington Post on her recent visit to Bosnia where she learned firsthand about the power of partnerships. While there, Dr. Salerno met with members of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), with whom Komen jointly funds the Women’s Health Empowerment Program (WHEP). You can read more about the WHEP and Dr. Salerno’s moving experience here.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement!**

The 2016-2017 Komen Graduate Training in Disparities Research (GTDR) Application deadline is September 20 at 1 p.m. EST.

- GTDR Grants are intended to establish and/or to sustain a training program dedicated to understanding and eliminating disparities in breast cancer outcomes across population groups.
- For more information, please visit www.komen.org/RFA.

Coming soon! We will be releasing the Request for Applications for the next round of Shevell Travel Awards early this fall!
Komen Recognized by ASCO for Investment in CancerLinQ

The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) recently recognized Susan G. Komen for our $2 million dollar investment in CancerLinQ, a big data project that aims to rapidly improve the overall quality of cancer care. You can learn more about this exciting technology and our partnership with ASCO’s Conquer Cancer Foundation here.

Upcoming Conferences

Susan G. Komen partners with other breast cancer organizations, professional societies, and academic institutions to support a number of patient-focused meetings and scientific conferences each year. Below is a list of Komen-sponsored meetings (*) as well as other conferences that may be of interest.

- 30th Conference of the International Association for Breast Cancer Research (IABCRC) (Portland, OR) – Aug 4-7*
- Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium (Chicago, IL) – Sept 22-25
- 1st International Invasive Lobular Cancer (ILC) Symposium (Pittsburgh, PA) – Sept 29-30*
- 10th Annual Joining FORCEs Against Hereditary Cancer Conference (Orlando, FL) – Oct 6-8*
- American Public Health Association (APHA) 2016 Annual Meeting (Denver, CO) – Oct 29-Nov 2
- 2016 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (SABCS) (San Antonio, TX) – Dec 6-10*

If you will be presenting your Komen-funded research at any of these conferences, and if you need the Komen logo to include on your poster or presentation, please be sure to let your Research Grants Manager know or email us at researchprograms@komen.org.

Komen Kudos!

In early June, Susan G. Komen praised Senate
leaders for swift action to preserve federal funding of biomedical research — including breast cancer research — conducted through the Department of Defense (DOD). You can read more about this important amendment here.

## Komen Research in the News

- **PM 360** — According to a Komen-funded study, the combination of a 21-gene recurrence score and quantitative estrogen receptor expression may help clinicians identify patients with estrogen receptor–positive breast cancer who are most likely to benefit from hormonal therapy extended beyond the customary five years.
- **Health Canal** — A multi-institutional team of scientists funded by Komen completed the first large-scale “proteogenomic” study of breast cancer, linking DNA mutations to protein signaling and helping pinpoint the genes that drive cancer.
- **Medical Xpress** — According to a Komen-funded study published in *Science Advances*, researchers have shown that using a drug combination that targets both the progesterone receptor and estrogen receptors (using tamoxifen) is more effective at treating some breast cancers than tamoxifen alone.
- **Medscape** — Komen funding helped support two studies from the clinical trial collaboration known as the Investigation of Serial Studies to Predict Your Therapeutic Response through Imaging and Molecular Analysis 2 (I-SPY 2). The studies provide evidence for the effectiveness of two new drugs (neratinib and veliparib in combination with carboplatin) in the neoadjuvant treatment of breast cancer.
- **Boston Business Journal** — Fitbit announced it is partnering with Boston's Dana-Farber Cancer Institute on a study, led by Komen Scholar Dr. Jennifer Ligibel, to determine whether exercise helps decrease the recurrence of breast cancer.