NYU Langone Medical Center

The NYU Jewish Women's Breast and Ovarian Cancer Genetics Study

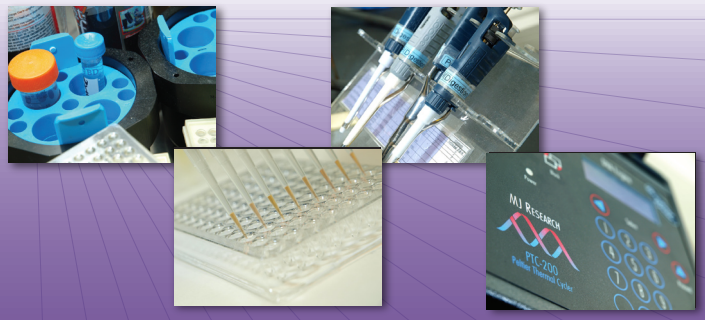
Approximately 5-10% of all breast and ovarian cancers are hereditary in nature. We currently know only a handful of genes that are involved in hereditary breast and ovarian cancer such as BRCA1, BRCA2, p53, and PTEN. Mutations in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes are known to account for the majority of hereditary breast and ovarian cancer, but there are many families with a clear predisposition in which these genes are not the explanation. Furthermore, it is understood that not everyone that carries a mutation in the BRCA1 or BRCA2 genes will actually develop cancer.

The NYU Jewish Women's Breast and Ovarian Cancer Genetics Study has two primary goals:

- Investigate unknown genes that may be respon sible for hereditary breast and/or ovarian cancer.
- Identify modifier genes that may interact with known hereditary breast and/or ovarian cancer genes (i.e. BRCA1 and BRCA2) to protect some individuals from getting cancer.

Overall, we hope the study will provide individuals with a more personalized assessment on their risk to develop breast or ovarian cancer and offer some families additional testing in regards to their strong family history of breast and ovarian cancer.

This is an anonymous study; therefore, no genetic results will be reported to individuals through this study. Results will be released for the study population as a whole and will serve to benefit the Ashkenazi Jewish population as a whole.



Any Ashkenazi Jewish woman is eligible for the study if she meets at least one of the following criteria:

1) Any woman from a "high risk" family that is BRCA negative OR in which BRCA test results are unknown. For the purposes of this study, "high risk" includes:
   - 2 or more first or second degree relatives diagnosed with breast cancer at any age
   - 1 case of breast cancer in the family with at least 1 first or second degree relative with ovarian cancer*
   - 1 case of breast cancer with at least 1 first or second degree relative with bilateral breast cancer
   - 2 or more first or second degree relatives diagnosed with ovarian cancer*
   - Both breast and ovarian cancer in one individual

   *Ovarian cancer may be substituted for male breast cancer
2) Any woman with a personal history of cancer who is known to carry a mutation in BRCA1 or BRCA2
3) Any woman over the age of 60 years who is known to have a mutation in BRCA1 or BRCA2 and has NOT developed cancer
4) Any healthy woman over the age of 70 years who has NOT been diagnosed with breast or ovarian cancer.

For more information and a calendar of community outreach seminars, visit the study website at http://beyondbrca.med.nyu.edu.

For any additional questions or comments, please contact the coordinating genetic counselor, Lauren Carpiniello, at (212) 263-5528 or genetics.research@nyumc.org.

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JEWISH WOMEN'S FOUNDATION of new york