

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2025 BRCA Research & Cure Alliance Research Program Announcement

CureBRCA will accept applications between January 3 – March 15, 2025.

CHICAGO (December 31, 2024) —

The BRCA Research & Cure Alliance (CureBRCA) is pleased to announce that it will begin to accept funding applications starting January 3, 2025, through March 15, 2025. To qualify for funding consideration, BRCA-related research must address at least one priority area: genetic testing implementation, cancer prevention, cancer early detection, and/or cancer treatment for men at risk for, or who have diagnoses of, BRCA-related cancers. For more details about the application, including the link to apply, please visit: www.curebrca.org/rfa.

Applications will be reviewed by CureBRCA leadership, the review committee including members of the Scientific Advisory Committee, and, when appropriate, affected individuals, genetic counselors, and/or other BRCA advocates. CureBRCA follows an open application process, allowing researchers, clinicians, and individuals to apply without needing an invitation. Throughout the application process all information is kept strictly confidential. CureBRCA will make every effort to ensure our decisions are fair, objective, and transparent. Any individual who has a conflict of interest with an application is excluded from its assessment.

About BRCA

BRCA1 and *BRCA2* are genes that produce proteins essential for repairing damaged DNA. Each person inherits two copies of these genes, one from each parent. Often referred to as tumor suppressor or "caretaker genes," *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* play a crucial role in maintaining DNA integrity. Mutations in these genes significantly increase the risk of various cancers, particularly prostate, breast, ovarian, and pancreatic cancers. While BRCA mutations are relatively rare, affecting about 1 in 400 individuals, they are more prevalent in specific populations, such as the Ashkenazi Jewish community, where the incidence is approximately 1 in 40. It is estimated that globally, 25 million people carry a BRCA mutation, yet only about 10% of affected people are aware of their status.

About the BRCA Research & Cure Alliance (CureBRCA)

The BRCA Research & Cure Alliance (CureBRCA) is a registered not-for-profit foundation in Illinois dedicated to advancing the understanding, prevention, and treatment of *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* gene mutations. As one of the few foundations focused specifically on BRCA, CureBRCA seeks to educate, support research initiatives, and connect leading experts to enhance the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of cancers associated with these mutations. "By establishing CureBRCA, we aim to foster education and collaboration among the brightest minds in the field," stated founder Michael Polsky.

CureBRCA's unique organizational structure allows it to operate independently without formal partnerships with outside entities. The founders believe that pooling insights from a diverse range of knowledgeable stakeholders can help dismantle scientific barriers and promote information sharing across disciplines. For additional information, please visit www.curebrca.org.

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