



Preventing Cancer

PROTECTING FAMILY



2025 Impact Milestones

www.curebrca.org

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About Us

The BRCA Research & Cure Alliance (CureBRCA) was officially launched in 2022 as a registered Illinois not-for-profit private foundation. The mission is to advance the knowledge, prevention, and treatment of men and families who are affected by *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* gene mutations.



There is a history of BRCA related cancers in our family, and we do not want others with BRCA mutations to have to live with the same fears.

- Michael Polsky

»»» Vision

Mission - Advancing the knowledge, prevention, and treatment for individuals and families affected by BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene mutations.

Who We Are - The BRCA Research and Cure Alliance (CureBRCA) is a catalyst for results-driven innovation to better characterize, prevent, and ultimately cure BRCA-related cancers. We convene a diverse coalition of stakeholders from academia, medical institutions, industry, government agencies, and the patient community to inform strategy, accelerate progress, and address the critical unanswered questions that persist in BRCA research.

What We Do - We connect individuals and families with world-class medical expertise and research in a global effort to prevent, treat, and cure BRCA related cancers in men.

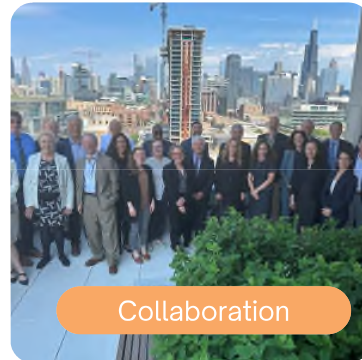
How We Do It - We drive progress through targeted investments in research, education, collaboration, and outreach for men and families affected by BRCA.



Research



Education



Collaboration



Outreach

Research



Since 2022, The BRCA Research & Cure Alliance (CureBRCA) has funding 11 BRCA-related initiatives that involve prevention, detection, screening, and/or treatment for men at risk for BRCA-related cancers.

Funded research proposals were evaluated by CureBRCA leadership and the Scientific Advisory Committee on the following components:

- The quality of the research;
- The expected research impact; and
- The probability of meaningful progress or disruptive innovation.

Read more about CureBRCA research at curebrca.org/grants.



CureBRCA Funded Research Projects



Robert Bristow, MD, PhD
University of Manchester,
U.K.

“Model Development and Assessment to Explain Heterogeneity in Localized BRCA2 Prostate Cancer”



Alan D'Andrea, MD
Dana-Farber Cancer
Institute, U.S.

“Prevention of PARP Inhibitor Resistance in BRCA2-Mutated Prostate Cancers by Inhibiting POLQ”



Rosalind Eeles, PhD
The Institute of Cancer Research,
U.K.

“BRCA1 And BRCA2 Mutation Carriers – Prostate Cancer Screening And Treatment Outcomes”



Maria Jasin, PhD
Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center, U.S.

“BRCA2 Mutant Prostate Cancer and the Impact of DNA Replication Factor Perturbation in Therapy Resistance”



Ephrat Levy-Lahad, MD
Shaare Zedek Medical
Center, Israel

“Presymptomatic Awareness of Germline Pathogenic BRCA Variants and Associated Outcomes in Male BRCA carriers with Prostate Cancer”

CureBRCA Funded Research Projects



Daniel W. Lin, MD
University of Washington

“Prostate Cancer Screening for People at Genetic Risk for Aggressive Disease (PATROL)”



Kara Maxwell, MD, PhD
University of Pennsylvania

“The Role of BRCA2 Regulation of Androgen Signaling In Prostate Tumors and the Tumor Microenvironment”



Katherine Nathanson, MD
University of Pennsylvania

“Expanding The Spectrum of BRCA1/2 Pathogenic Variants”



Kenneth Offit, MD, MPH
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

“Targeting BRCA1/2 Modifiers of Risk for Prostate Cancer”



Kimberly Rickman MD, PhD
University of California San Francisco

“Defining Prostate Cancer Tumor-Immune Interactions in BRCA2 Deficiency to Identify Therapeutic Vulnerabilities”

Polsky Family Genetic Testing Initiative



In 2025, CureBRCA funded the Polsky Family Genetic Testing Initiative at the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. The three-year program expands access to genetic testing for children and families, helping identify cancer risks early.

Program Highlights:

- **Expanded Access:** Providing genetic testing to more patients and families for early detection of cancer risks.
- **Cancer Predisposition Focus:** Integrated within Lurie's Cancer Predisposition Program to evaluate inherited cancer risks.
- **Personalized Care:** Collects detailed family histories to guide individualized testing and care plans.
- **Support & Education:** Offers genetic counseling, empowering families to make informed healthcare decisions.





Education

CureBRCA led the development of a landmark white paper on cancer risks and management for men with BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations, consolidating prevention guidance into a single, authoritative clinical resource. The peer-reviewed article, “BRCA1, BRCA2, and Associated Cancer Risks and Management for Male Patients,” was published in JAMA Oncology on July 25, 2024. It was authored by Heather Cheng, MD, PhD, with key contributions from Kara Maxwell, MD, PhD; Bryson Katona, MD, PhD; Jeffrey Shevach, MD; and an international team of experts. CureBRCA also produced a companion patient brochure outlining BRCA Guidelines for Men.

Access the article here: curebrca.org/brca-associated-cancer-risks-and-management-for-male-patients/.

BRCA
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BRCA GUIDELINES FOR MEN

This brochure is a companion piece to the peer-reviewed medical white paper, which was published on July 25, 2024, by JAMA Oncology titled: *BRCA1, BRCA2 and Associated Cancer Risks and Management for Males: A Review*

To access the full article, visit the websites of JAMA Oncology or the BRCA Research & Cure Alliance.

www.curebrca.org

WHAT IS BRCA?

BRCA1 (BRCA1 gene 1) and BRCA2 (BRCA2 gene 2) are genes that are the code to make proteins that help repair damaged DNA.

Everyone has two copies of each of these genes—one copy inherited from each parent.

Men and women are equally likely to inherit BRCA genes from their parents and pass them on to their children.

Damaging variants in BRCA1 and BRCA2 increase the risk of several types of cancers including breast, ovarian, prostate, and pancreatic cancer.

Having a BRCA1/2 mutation does not always lead to cancer, but can give someone important information about cancer risk. This information can enable people and their doctors to be proactive for their health.

WHO SHOULD BE TESTED FOR BRCA?

PERSONAL HISTORY OF CANCER:

- Gleason 8-10 (or, WHO Grade Group 4-5), involving lymph nodes, or that is metastatic (spread outside the prostate)
- pancreatic cancer
- male breast cancer

FAMILY HISTORY OF CANCER:

- family member with a BRCA1/2 mutation
- family history of any male breast cancer, pancreatic cancer, or metastatic prostate cancer
- close blood relatives with any of the following: breast cancer diagnosed at age younger than 50 years, a subtype of breast cancer called “triple negative”, pancreatic cancer or ovarian cancer
- family history of pancreatic cancer in a first degree relative
- family is of Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry
- Other cancers in the family may also be important and can guide testing for BRCA. Gather the best information you can and share it with your medical team.

HOW DO INDIVIDUALS GET TESTED FOR BRCA?

It is best to get tested for BRCA through your doctor.

You can also find a genetic counselor in your area, by visiting the National Society of Genetic Counselor’s website. This directory offers access to over 3,300 genetic counselors (US and Canada). You have options for in-person or telehealth counseling: findageneticcounselor.org

Guidelines in this brochure were collected on July 22, 2024, from the following medical societies and panels. Please note guidelines change periodically.
American Gastroenterology Association (AGA), American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE), American Urological Association (AUA), International Cancer of the Prostate Screening Consortium (ICAP), European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO), National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN), Society of Urologic Oncology (SUO)

WHAT CAN MEN WITH BRCA DO TO BE PROACTIVE?

PROSTATE SCREENING

- BRCA2 carriers should be screened with a PSA blood test, starting at age 40-45.

PANCREAS SCREENING

- Eligible carriers of BRCA1/2 should consider screening starting at age 50, or 10 years before the earliest known pancreatic cancer in the family.
- A contrast-enhanced abdominal MRI and/or endoscopic ultrasound as screening modalities are recommended.

MALE BREAST CANCER

- It is recommended that male carriers of BRCA2 start screening at age 50, or 10 years before the earliest known breast cancer in the family.
- Annual mammograms are recommended.
- Learn about male breast cancer symptoms and signs, be aware of and monitor breast tissue for changes, and report any changes or abnormalities to a doctor.

Additional screenings may be advised based on a person’s family history of cancer.

WHAT ACTIONS CAN MEN WITH BRCA TAKE TO PROTECT THEIR HEALTH?

- Consult with your doctor or a genetic counselor who can help assess your individual risk and recommend next steps.
- Share information with family members (your children, siblings, and parents) about your BRCA genetic mutation so they can get tested for BRCA and make informed decisions about cancer screening and prevention. It is typically advised to wait until children are 18y or older to get genetic testing so they can choose when and how they receive this information.
- Consider **tailored cancer screening**, typically starting at age 40y for males.
- Consider enrolling in a **clinical trial**. For example, there are clinical trials to help screen for, and find, cancer earlier. Other clinical trials are designed to test treatments for cancer that researchers hope may be even more effective than the current best treatments. Other clinical trials are just learning about patients’ experiences and treatment outcomes. Ask your doctor if you are interested. You can also visit clinicaltrials.gov to see a list of open trials.

www.curebrca.org

Knowledge Center

In 2025, CureBRCA transformed its website from a static, brochure-style presence into a dynamic, content-rich platform. The new CureBRCA Knowledge Center now offers more than 30 patient-focused resources and hosts the Target Genetic Education Tool—an interactive, web-based learning program featuring nine educational modules, quizzes, and a scored completion certificate to assess knowledge mastery. Developed by oncologists, the tool serves both as a trusted educational resource for patients and as a referral-supported learning tool for healthcare providers. Access the Knowledge Center here: curebrca.org/resources.

The screenshot shows the CureBRCA Knowledge Center website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the BRCA Research & Cure Alliance logo and menu items: ABOUT US, GRANTS, RESOURCES, NEWS, and CONTACT. The main heading is "KNOWLEDGE CENTER". Below this, a text block states: "The CureBRCA Knowledge Center contains over a dozen pages of BRCA resources for men across several categories. Browse all categories here or click the category below to filter." A "Filter by Category" dropdown menu is open, showing a list of categories including "Prostate Cancer", "All", "BRCA1/BRCA2 Genes", "Education", "Fertility", "Genetic Testing", "Helpful Links", "Laws & Protection", "Pancreatic Cancer", "Prostate Cancer", "Provider Tools", "Public Policy", "Research/Clinical Trials", and "Support for Men with BRCA". Below the filter, there are four featured resource cards:

- BRCA Guidelines Brochure for Men**: This brochure is a companion piece to the peer-reviewed medical white paper, which was published on July 25, 2024, by JAMA Oncology titled, BRCA1, BRCA2 and Associated Cancer Risks.
- Genetic Testing: Webinar for Physicians and Other Healthcare Providers**: Bassor Center Executive Director Susan Domchek, MD, presents a webinar on cancer genetic testing for physicians and other healthcare providers. She
- DO YOU HAVE IT? Find out if you are at risk for having an inherited mutation in the high-risk cancer genes, BRCA1 and BRCA2**: A short online "quiz", created by the Bassor Center for BRCA, that
- Hereditary Cancer and Men with BRCA**: Men with BRCA can access various education resources, ask questions to a genetic counselor, and gain support by joining communities hosted by Sharsheet, a national non-profit organization.

The screenshot shows the landing page for the Target Genetic Education Webtool. At the top, there is the BRCA Research & Cure Alliance logo. The main heading is "TARGET: A Genetic Education Webtool to Help Make an Informed Decision for Hereditary Prostate Cancer Genetic Testing". Below this, a sub-heading reads "Test Your Knowledge - Access the Tool Today". A list of bullet points describes the tool:

- The Target Tool is your interactive guide to genetic testing for prostate cancer. This self-paced tool will educate you on hereditary cancer testing and help assess your understanding.
- The tool features 9 short, insightful videos, followed by a quick quiz, and can be completed in about 20 minutes. Once you finish, you'll receive a downloadable certificate.
- Share this certificate with your healthcare provider or genetics specialist to discuss genetic testing options and get answers to your questions.
- Take charge of your health and gain the insights necessary to make informed decisions that will improve the well-being of your entire family.

At the bottom, there is a QR code and the URL curebrca.org/resources/target.



BRCA News

The new CureBRCA News Center features a curated collection of credible news stories covering topics such as BRCA research breakthroughs in men, advances in drug therapies, clinical trial updates, and other relevant information for men affected by BRCA mutations. Access the News Center here: curebrca.org/news.

BRCA
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ABOUT US GRANTS RESOURCES NEWS CONTACT

FDA GRANTS FULL APPROVAL TO RUCAPARIB FOR BRCA MUTATION-ASSOCIATED MCRPC

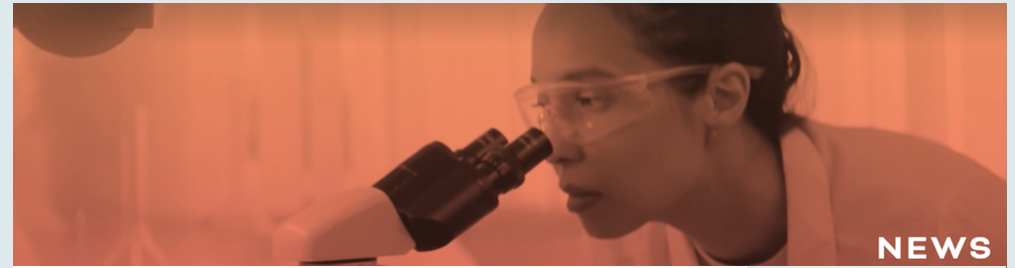
December 19, 2025

The FDA has granted regular approval to rucaparib (Rubraca) for the treatment of adult patients with *BRCA* mutation-associated metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) previously treated with an androgen receptor-directed therapy.¹

Review the story here: <https://www.onclive.com/view/fda-grants-full-approval-to-rucaparib-for-brca-mutation-associated-merpc>

[READ THE COMPLETE ARTICLE HERE](#)

[← PREVIOUS POST](#)



NEWS

SEARCH

<p> FDA Grants Full Approval to Rucaparib for BRCA Mutation-Associated mCRPC</p> <p>December 19, 2025</p> <p>The FDA has granted regular approval to rucaparib (Rubraca) for BRCA mutation-associated metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer.</p>	<p> FDA Approves Niraparib and Abiraterone Acetate with Prednisone for mCSPC</p> <p>December 17, 2025</p> <p>On December 12, 2025, the Food and Drug Administration approved niraparib and abiraterone acetate (Akeega, Janssen Biotech, Inc.) with prednisone for adults with deleterious or suspected deleterious BRCA2-mutated (BRCA2m) metastatic castration-sensitive prostate cancer (mCSPC).</p>	<p> Open Clinical Trials for BRCA Carriers</p> <p>October 29, 2025</p> <p>Research helps scientists and doctors better understand health and disease, leading to new ways to prevent, diagnose, and treat illnesses. By participating in a clinical trial, you can play a vital role in advancing discoveries that may improve health outcomes for everyone.</p>
<p> Men with BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene mutations should get annual prostate cancer screening</p>	<p> The Gray Pre-Cancer Atlas</p> <p>October 1, 2025</p> <p>Men and women with</p>	<p> CureBRCA Grant Recipients</p> <p>October 1, 2025</p> <p>Funded research includes</p>



Collaboration



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While groundbreaking research is already underway within the BRCA medical community, much of it occurs in silos, limiting the potential for broader impact. Addressing a cause larger than any single institution requires collective effort and collaboration. In 2025, the Foundation hosted the 4th CureBRCA Collaborative, a full day of scientific discussions focused on the unmet needs of the BRCA community and potential solutions.



Collaboration

Thank you!



2022–2025
CureBRCA
Collaborative
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Outreach



Amplifying the Voice of BRCA Carriers

BRCA gene mutations affect both individuals and their families. CureBRCA is committed to advancing prevention, early detection, and treatment by educating about genetic testing, amplifying the voices of BRCA carriers, and advocating for policies that improve care for men with BRCA mutations.



In 2025, CureBRCA continued its advocacy efforts to raise awareness about the unique needs of individuals with, or at risk for, hereditary cancers. On June 12, 2025, CureBRCA participated in FORCE's Virtual Advocacy Day alongside other organizations to educate legislators about the Patient Eligibility Restoration Act (PERA). This legislation could overturn prior Supreme Court decisions allowing private companies to patent biomarkers, including DNA—potentially increasing the cost of genetic testing and limiting access to critical information needed to prevent and manage BRCA-related cancers.

Other leading organizations joining the advocacy effort included the American College of Medical Genetics, the National Society of Genetic Counselors, the Society of Gynecologic Oncology, the Colon Cancer Coalition, Susan G. Komen, and SHARE Cancer Support.

Leadership



Michael Polsky
Founder



Tanya Polsky
Founder



Heather Cheng, MD
Chief Science Officer



Priscilla Kennedy
Managing Director



Thank you

We thank each of you for being an encouraging part of our community and supporting the BRCA Research & Cure Alliance (CureBRCA). We have made tremendous progress in a short period of time, and we are so grateful to our friends in the medical and research community for their dedication and unwavering commitment to individuals and families affected by BRCA gene mutations. We look forward to partnering with you for another successful year of research, education, collaboration, and outreach efforts.



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