BRCA Research & Cure Alliance

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

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.

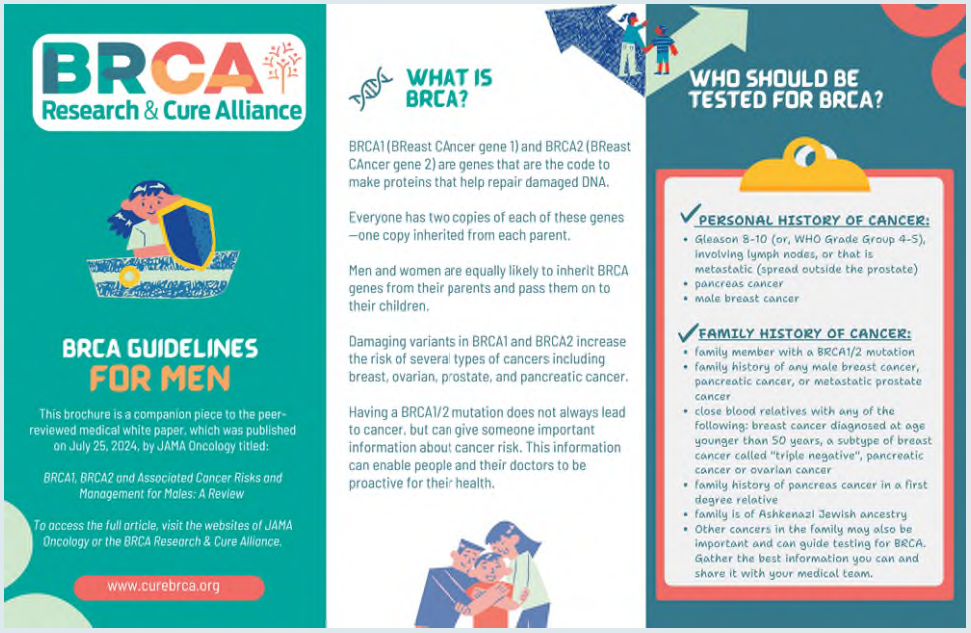
Program Highlights:

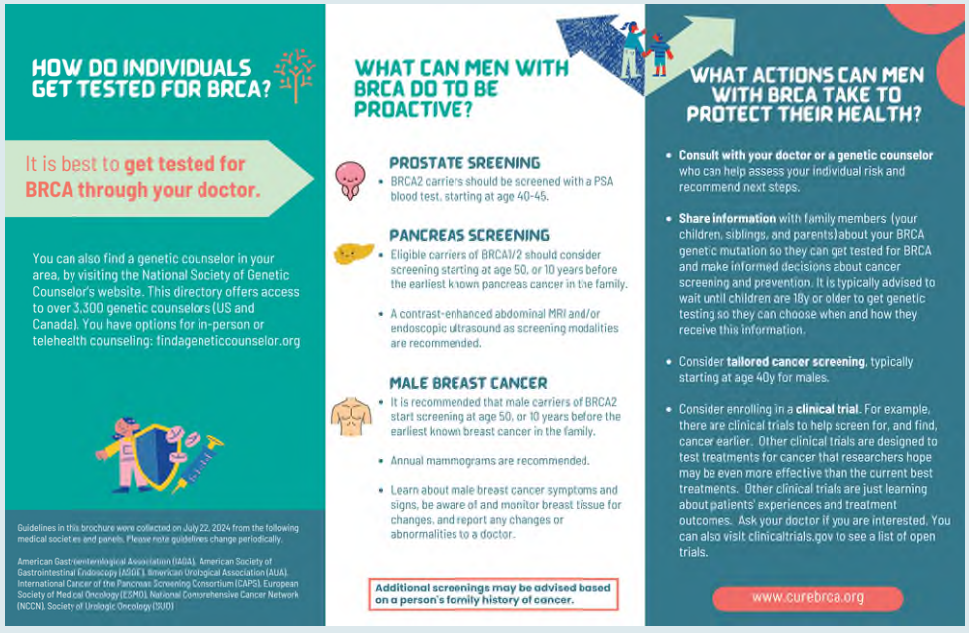
- ***Expanded Access*:** Providing genetic testing to more patients and families for early detection of cancer risks.
- ***Cancer Predisposition Focus*:** Integrated within Lurie's Cancer Predisposition Program to evaluate inherited cancer risks.
- ***Personalized Care*:** Collects detailed family histories 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.

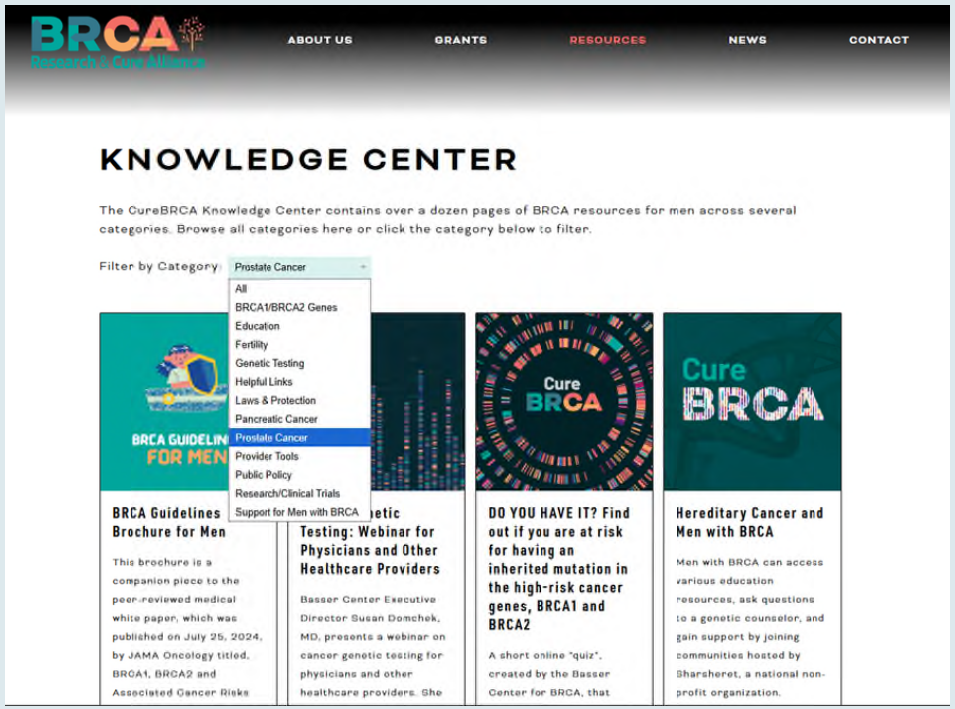
Access the article here: ***curebrca.org/brca-associated-cancer-risks-and-management-for-male-patients/.***

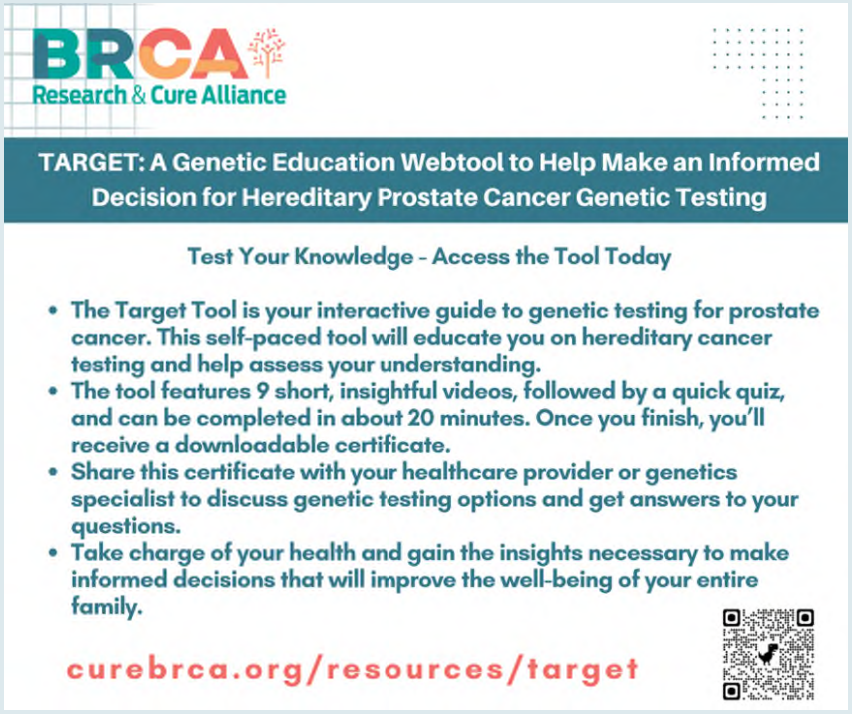




Knowledge Center

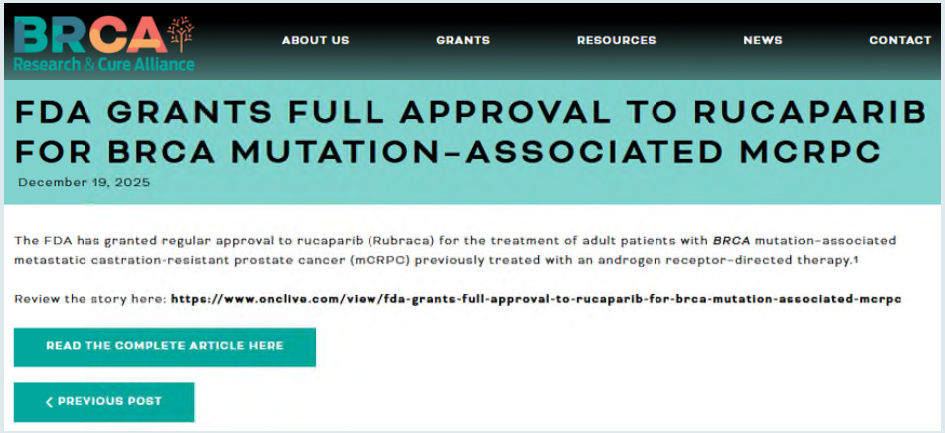
In 2025, CureBRCA transformed its website from a static, brochure-style presence into a dynamic, content-rich platform. The new CureBRCA Knowledge Center now offers more than 30 patient-focused resources and hosts the Target Genetic Education Tool—an interactive, web-based learning program featuring 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.***





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.***



Collaboration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Heather Cheng, MD, PhD
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Oncologist


Fergus Couch, PhD
Mayo Clinic
Researcher


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Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Radiation Oncologist


John Flavin
CEO & Founder
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Michael Hall, MD
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Mark Waddle, MD
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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 CONTRIBUTORS

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Burcu Darst, PhD, Fred Hutch Cancer Center
Susan Domchek, MD; University of Pennsylvania
Rosalind Eeles, PhD; The Institute of Cancer Research
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Daniel Lin, MD; University of Washington
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Outreach

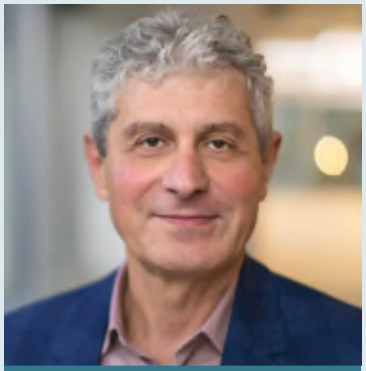
Amplifying the Voice of BRCA Carriers

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



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Founder

Tanya Polsky
Founder

Heather Cheng, MD
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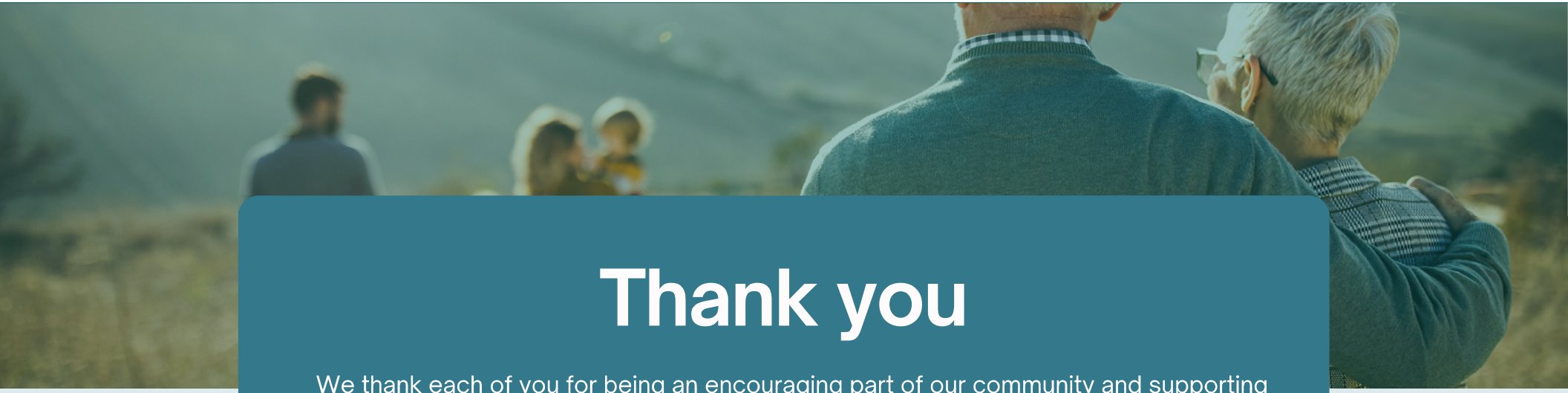

Thank you

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 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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