



Susan G. Komen

Research Grants – Fiscal Year 2015

This research grant was approved for FY2015 Research Programs funding. This grant will be funded upon the execution of grant agreements between Komen and the grantee institutions.

Hereditary breast cancer: cause and effect

Investigator(s): William Foulkes, M.D., Ph.D.

Lead Organization: McGill University

Grant Mechanism: Komen Scholars

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Public Abstract:

Hereditary breast cancer is an important type of breast cancer because it offers the possibility of prevention in the setting of a high prior risk. We are conducting a broad research program to investigate hereditary breast cancer, starting from a discovery study of new genes that might help us to evaluate risk of breast cancer to a much more "clinical" project where we implement new testing protocols for women with breast cancer, via a bench-based study of how some of the known breast cancer susceptibility genes cause breast cancer. In this way, we tackle not only basic issues, but also practical questions relevant to women with breast cancer. If we can identify women at risk for breast cancer before they develop it, we have a real chance to reduce mortality from breast cancer by the most effective means known — preventing the incidence of breast cancer.

