

BCFR NEWSLETTER

Keeping you up to date on the Breast Cancer Family Registry



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PUBLICATIONS & NEWS

BCFR participates in Confluence Project



The Breast Cancer Family Registry (BCFR) was created more than 25 years ago to investigate the genetic and environmental causes of breast cancer. Your contributions have led to the creation of this large research resource and made hundreds of research studies possible. There are other large familial registries in other parts of the world that have endeavoured to do the same thing. We at the BCFR are always looking for collaborations to further enhance the power your contributions to the BCFR have in fighting cancer. One such collaboration we have made is with the Confluence study.

Confluence is a large international project studying breast cancer genetic susceptibility across of multiple ancestries and is funded by the US National Institutes of Health. This project has invited several existing breast cancer research studies to join forces and genome-wide genetic data to widen the lens and improve the odds of scientific discovery. The BCFR has contributed data to this important study. Studies with large numbers of participants are more powerful and therefore more likely to lead to new scientific discoveries. The Confluence project has built a large research resource that will compare over 300,000 cases of breast cancer and 300,000 controls to study the genetic architecture of breast cancer. Click the logo below for more information.



PARTICIPANT RESEARCH HUB

STUDY UPDATES

YOUNG WOMEN'S STUDY

- Participants continue to enroll in our Young Women's Study.
- To date, **835** young women have joined across all sites.
- Participants are now filling out questionnaires, using the "Clue" app, and providing blood samples for research.
- Do you have a female relative 18-39 years old who is interested to learn more? Please "CONTACT US" using the site links found on the next page.

25-YEAR FOLLOW UP

- The 25-year follow-up is still underway!
- We have received over **8,500** completed surveys! Thank You for completing the survey and empowering familial cancer research.
- If you haven't received the survey, or have one you haven't completed, there is still time so please "CONTACT US" using the site links found on the next page.

OCTOBER 2022

MEET A RESEARCHER

Danielle Hanna, MS CGC

Danielle Hanna is a Certified Genetic Counselor and Study Coordinator at the Ontario site of the Familial Breast Cancer Registry at Princess Margaret Hospital and Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto Ontario. Ms. Hanna received her MS in Human Genetics from Sarah Lawrence College in New York and has been involved with the Registry since 1998. For almost 25 years, she has worked with families in both the clinical cancer genetics and research setting with a primary focus on hereditary breast and ovarian cancer and study retention efforts. Danielle is keenly interested in research involving youth and adolescents and coordinated the LEGACY Girls Study in Ontario. Outside of work, she enjoys gardening, boating on Lake Ontario, camping and hiking the Lake Superior Coastal Trail and Canada's longest trail, The Bruce Trail.



IS YOUR breast cancer screening UP-TO-DATE?



At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, many non-urgent health care procedures, including cancer screening, were paused or deferred to prioritize urgent health care needs and reduce the spread of COVID-19.

While screening has resumed, some patients have either been challenged to, or reluctant to, access routine medical care and screening.

We have all taken tremendous measures to stay safe and healthy throughout the COVID-19 pandemic including staying home, but getting checked for breast cancer is important.

Talk to your family doctor or nurse practitioner about resuming your breast screening. Regular screening is important because it can find breast cancer early when treatment has a better chance of working.

[Learn more: American Cancer Society Recommendations for the Early Detection of Breast Cancer](#)

CONTACT US

Select your BCFR site to be directed to your Research Team. Or, select BCFR to visit our website.



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