

About
Breast Cancer Trials



Group Room

Fire
exit



Treatment Room 2

Consulting





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Who We Are

Breast Cancer Trials (BCT) is a group of world-leading breast cancer doctors and researchers based in Australia and New Zealand, with a commitment to finding new and better treatments and prevention strategies for every person affected by breast cancer.

Founded in 1978, BCT conducts a multicentre national and international clinical trials research program which involves more than 1,000 researchers in 118 institutions across Australia and New Zealand. More than 17,900 people have participated in our clinical trials.

Our research involves a unique collaboration between researchers, clinical trial participants and supporters, which has improved the treatment of breast cancer, led to changes in the way breast cancer is managed and has saved millions of lives through international research collaboration.





1,014

Researchers



118

Participating
Institutions



17,910

Clinical Trial
Participants

Dr Stephen Luen is the Study Chair
of the OLIO clinical trial.



Rebecca Pickering, pictured with her family, is a participant in the OLIO clinical trial.

Our Research

Clinical trials are an essential part of our health system and are necessary to find out if new treatments are more effective than those currently accepted as the best available standard of care.

All new breast cancer treatments and prevention strategies must be rigorously tested through the clinical trials process before they are made widely available to the community.

All the major milestones in controlling breast cancer worldwide have come through clinical trials.

These include:

- Chemotherapy and hormone treatment prevent recurrence and save lives
- Mammograms save lives through earlier detection
- Removing just the cancer and preserving the breast is a safe and effective treatment for most women
- Breast cancer can be prevented in some women at increased risk
- Treatments targeted to the specific type of breast cancer can improve outcomes substantially

Types of Clinical Trials

There are many types of clinical trials designed to prevent and treat breast cancer and studies which aim to improve a patient's quality of life.

The **BCT research program** encompasses more than 95 clinical trials in various stages of recruitment, follow up, analysis and publication.

Prevention clinical trials are designed to test new strategies to prevent breast cancer for women who have never had the disease but who are at high risk.

Treatment clinical trials are designed to find out which treatments are the most effective and to test new treatments to see if they are better at improving outcomes for patients compared to the current standard treatments available. This is the most common type of clinical trial BCT conducts.

Quality of life assessments pay special attention to the breast cancer patient's feelings about the impact and side effects of treatment and aim to improve the overall experience of the patients who receive these treatments in the future.

The CAMBRIA-2 Clinical Trial

The CAMBRIA-2 clinical trial aims to find out if giving a new endocrine therapy treatment known as a ‘selective oestrogen receptor degrader’ (SERD) is better at stopping cancer from coming back compared with the usual endocrine (hormone) treatments such as letrozole, anastrozole, exemestane or tamoxifen.

Wendy Rolls is a wife and mum of three daughters who enjoys golf, quilting, scrapbooking and spending time with her family.

In October 2023, Wendy found a small lump in her breast, and trusting her instincts, she decided to follow up with her doctor.

After several tests, a biopsy confirmed it was breast cancer, and Wendy’s world changed in an instant. She underwent a double mastectomy and focused on her recovery, all while continuing to manage the everyday responsibilities of family life and her busy schedule.

It was during this time that Wendy learned about the CAMBRIA-2 clinical trial, which is testing a new





Wendy Rolls is a participant in the CAMBRIA-2 clinical trial.

endocrine therapy treatment known as a 'selective oestrogen receptor degrader' (SERD) as a possible alternative to standard hormone therapy. Like many women, Wendy was concerned about the long-term side effects of traditional treatments, including hot flushes, joint pain and fatigue, which can significantly impact quality of life.

Wendy decided to participate in the trial, not only for the possibility of a more tolerable treatment option, but also to contribute to research that could benefit future generations, including her daughters.

"This trial is looking at the current standard treatment drug that they have used on metastasised cancers, and assessing the benefit it has with early detection cancers, to see if it would keep the cancer from recurring. So, I think that's a bonus."

"And being on the trial, they monitor you more, you have more tests done, and they make sure that everything's going along the way that they want it to."

To find out more about our open clinical trials, visit
www.breastcancertrials.org.au/research/open-clinical-trials/



Professor Bruce Mann is the Director of Research at Breast Cancer Trials.

How Breast Cancer Trials Research Has Changed Lives

Here are some examples of our game-changing research, which has led to new and improved treatments.

Our research into Herceptin through the **HERA** clinical trial, was a breakthrough for women with HER2-positive breast cancer, which improved overall survival rates while maintaining a woman's quality of life.

The **SOFT & TEXT** clinical trials produced practice changing results in the treatment of breast cancer in young women, who may have a poorer long-term prognosis.

For women with a high risk of developing breast cancer we proved through the **IBIS-I** clinical trial that Tamoxifen reduces breast cancer rates by nearly a third, in what was landmark prevention research. The follow up study called IBIS-II, found that taking anastrozole for five years reduces the chances of postmenopausal women at high risk of breast cancer developing the disease by more than 50%.

Young women have increased chances of being able to have children after their cancer treatment after we trialed a new drug option, through the **POEMS** clinical trial, that reduces the side effects of chemotherapy. POEMS found that women who received goserelin were less likely to be in menopause two years after their cancer treatment and were twice as likely to have a normal pregnancy after their cancer treatment.

Our People



BCT Board Chair Professor Sunil Lakhani
and BCT CEO Ms Karen Price.

Breast Cancer Trials is governed by a Board of Directors who drive the strategic direction of the Group and work with the Chief Executive Officer and all staff, to implement the objectives of the organisation.

BCT has several board established committees to ensure the clinical trials research program is undertaken to the highest standards.

The Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) establishes research priorities, evaluates new clinical trial proposals and monitors the clinical trial research portfolio. All new clinical trials endorsed by SAC for activation must be approved by the Board.

The Consumer Advisory Panel (CAP) is involved in every aspect of research undertaken by BCT, from concept development proposals through to clinical trial implementation. CAP members provide valuable insight from a consumer's viewpoint and continue to advocate for patients who wish to participate, are participants of or have participated in clinical trials. CAP members also help to raise

community awareness of breast cancer clinical trials research and represent consumer views on behalf of BCT in government, community, consumer and research forums to promote the importance of clinical trials research. Several CAP members are also on SAC to ensure that the perspective of those diagnosed with breast cancer is represented.

The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee the financial strategy and budget of BCT, to ensure we can continue our research program now and into the future.

The Communications and Fundraising Committee provides guidance and advice on the communications and fundraising activities of BCT, which are closely aligned to the Strategic Plan.

Collaboration



Chair of the BCT Scientific Advisory Committee Dr Nicholas Zdenkowski.

Breast Cancer Trials has over 1,000 members throughout Australia and New Zealand. Our members are made up on surgeons, medical oncologists, study coordinators, radiation oncologists, pathologists, endocrinologists, haematologists, pharmacists, geneticists, psychologists, counsellors, research nurses, consumers and other clinical trials management personnel.

BCT members are representatives on many national and international clinical trial steering committees, scientific committees, editorial boards, advisory boards and societies.

Our international collaboration includes other leading international clinical trial groups, such as the Cancer Research UK, the German Breast Group and the International Breast Cancer Study Group (Switzerland and USA).

Membership

Researchers

Membership of BCT is open to people who are actively involved in the conduct of the BCT research program.

There are two membership categories: Full Member and Affiliate Member. A Full Member is deemed by the Board to be or will be directly involved in the conduct of the BCT research program. An Affiliate Member is deemed by the Board to have an interest in, and awareness of, BCT and its research activities but who is not involved in the conduct of the BCT research program.

For more information or to complete a membership application form, visit www.breastcancertrials.org.au/about/become-a-member/.

General Public

Members of the general public who are interested in learning and receiving information about our research and fundraising activities, are encouraged to sign up to our monthly research newsletter. For more information visit the footer on our website at **breastcancertrials.org.au**.



The members and friends of Maitland Ladies Golf have been supporting Breast Cancer Trials since 1997, raising **over \$75,000** for our research.

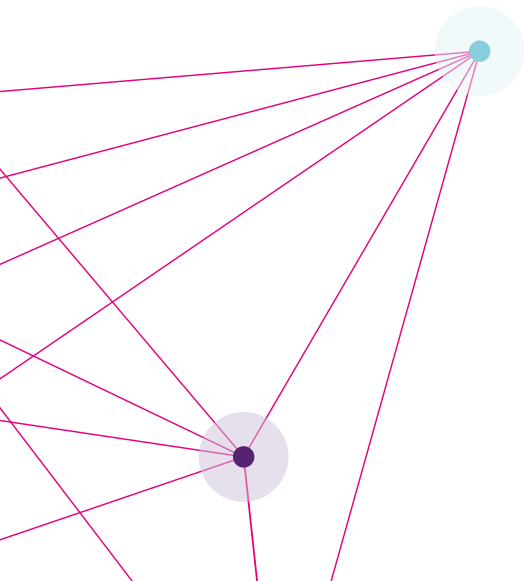
How You Can Help

Exciting medical discoveries need clinical trials if they are to change the lives of people diagnosed with breast cancer. Financial support for Breast Cancer Trials is critical to ensuring better treatments, prevention and a future filled with hope for all women.

There are many ways you can connect with Breast Cancer Trials and show your support. You might like to make an automated, monthly donation; or make a gift for your mother in time for Mother's Day. Making a gift in memory of a loved one is a special way you can honour their memory.

Or what about 'getting active' by participating in a sporting event, or holding a function and seeking support from your family, friends and work colleagues? And if you love golf, our Tee Off for Breast Cancer Trials may be the event for you.

To learn more about how you can become a supporter, please visit www.breastcancertrials.org.au.



Useful Websites

Australia:

Australian Clinical Trials

australianclinicaltrials.gov.au

Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry

anzctr.org.au

Breast Cancer Trials

breastcancertrials.org.au

Breast Cancer Network Australia

bcna.org.au

BreastScreen Australia

cancerscreening.gov.au

Cancer Australia

canceraustralia.gov.au

Cancer Council Australia

cancer.org.au

Clinical Oncological Society of Australia (COSA)

cosa.org.au

Metastatic Breast Cancer Action Group

mbcc.org.au

National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

nhmrc.gov.au

Therapeutic Goods Administration

tga.gov.au

New Zealand:

Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry

anzctr.org.au

Breast Cancer Aotearoa

timetoscreen.nz/breast-screening/

Breast Cancer Trials

Breastcancertrials.org.au

Cancer Society of New Zealand

Cancernz.org.nz

Cancer Trials New Zealand

cancertrialsnz.ac.nz

New Zealand Association of Clinical Research

nzacres.org.nz

New Zealand Ministry of Health

health.govt.nz

International:

Clinicaltrials.gov

Clinicaltrials.gov

National Cancer Institute, United States

cancer.gov

EU Clinical Trials Register (EU-CTR)

Clinicaltrialsregister.eu



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TRIALS** | **NO MORE
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PO Box 283
The Junction NSW 2291
Australia

P +61 2 4925 3022
F +61 2 4925 3068
E enquiries@bctrials.org.au

breastcancertrials.org.au

ABN 64 051 369 496

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