

Evidence Vitamin D May Lower Breast Cancer Risk

By Dr. Angela Lanfranchi

There is growing evidence that Vitamin D has anticarcinogenic effects and some studies have shown that it may reduce breast cancer risk. Experimental studies have shown that Vitamin D, which has been metabolized by the liver and kidneys into 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D, bind to a Vitamin D receptor in the nucleus and then to specific genes. This compound can inhibit cellular proliferation, induce differentiation and apoptosis (cell

(Continued on page 2)

Review of Epidemiologic Studies Done Of 66 Studies Done Over the Last 54 Years, 53 Showed a Positive Correlation and 25 Were Statistically Significant

By Dr. Angela Lanfranchi

In 1996, the Brind quantitative meta-analysis of the extant induced abortion and breast cancer studies showed that there were 23 studies, 10 of which were statistically significant. Since then, there has been no tabulation to include the studies after 1997. An unpublished review in 2003 showed that there were 40 studies which showed a positive association between induced abortion and breast cancer.

In 2004, the Beral "re-analysis" was purported to review the literature regarding the induced abortion breast cancer studies. There were many articles in the popular press asserting that this study showed that "more accurate" prospective studies did

(Continued on page 2)



Concert for Hope

The Durgin Concert Hall at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell was the venue for the first Concert for Hope benefiting BCPI this past June.

When Michael Cohelo, the conductor and Paul Steidinger, the executive director, developed the idea for a concert to benefit a breast cancer organization, a BCPI supporter, Mary Cleary, made these students aware of the Breast Cancer Prevention Institute. After reviewing our web site, they agreed that we were a worthy beneficiary.

Thirty volunteers helped to provide a wonderful evening of music for the 150 concert goers. The program was well received and BCPI gave the orchestra copies of its Risk and Prevention booklets in thanks.

A CD of the concert is in the works.



The First Annual BCPI Golf Classic NEWS!

By Jo Ann Gerling



June 30th 2011, marked BCPI's first annual **Golf Outing**. The event took place at the beautiful, player-friendly Cranbury Golf Club in West Windsor, New Jersey.

What a wonderful day we had! The weather was perfect, and our golf participants remarked what fun they had! There were door prizes, a silent auction, and prizes for the longest drive, the straightest drive, and the closest to the pin. Golfers even had a chance to win a 2012 Volvo (compliments of the Flanagan Family's Smythe Volvo) for making a hole in one at the second hole!

This golf outing was held to help raise funds for BCPI. We would like to thank all our golfers for supporting us. We would also like to thank our many sponsors who provided prizes, gifts, ads, food, and also those who made donations to help make this event the success it was!

**We appreciate the generous support we received
and hope to see everyone back next year!**

(Continued on page 2)

Review of Epidemiologic Studies Done

(Continued from page 1)

not show a link between abortion and breast cancer. A positive association was found with the retrospective studies, but this result was reported to be “misleading” in the abstract. However, there were many major flaws in this “re-analysis.” This study eliminated 14 published studies which had been subjected to peer review confirming the abortion breast cancer link, including a prospective study that showed a 90% increase in breast cancer risk with abortion. This demonstrated blatant selection bias. However of the 53 “studies” reported upon, 28 were sets of data that had not been previously published, yet they were reported upon as “studies.” There is no way to examine those data sets to be certain each set can be credibly used as “a study.” There was no scrutiny of peer review. There is no information as to the length of time patients were followed after the abortion; it takes a minimum of 8-10 years to develop a clinically detectable cancer after exposure to abortion. There is no way to know if the women were mostly women who had already given birth or if they had not; women without a birth are at higher risk. We do not know if variables such as family history or exposure to oral contraceptives were accounted for in the data analysis. We just don’t know enough about these individual data sets to be certain there was no bias in their selection, acquisition, or interpretation.

A full critique of this flawed study can be found on the BCPI web site on the Published Papers page. (<http://www.bcpinstitute.org/publishedpapers.htm>)

Frequently, BCPI has been queried about the number of studies showing a positive correlation or statistically significant results regarding induced abortion and breast cancer. A recent literature search was done by BCPI president, Dr. Lanfranchi, to answer that question. Since 1957 there has been 66 studies done which looked at the relation of induced abortion and breast cancer, including 53 which showed a positive correlation and 25 that were statistically significant. There were only 13 which showed no association. What is most telling is that one study author, Louise Brinton, had been a leader at the 2003 NCI Workshop on Early Reproductive Events and Breast Cancer Risk which concluded that there was no association between breast cancer and induced abortion. In 2009, Louise Brinton has now reported that there is a 40% statistically significant increase of breast cancer with induced abortion. Recent studies from Turkey, Iran and China have been published in the last 5 years. The list of these studies will be available soon on the BCPI website’s Resources Page. We hope that this list of studies will be useful to you so that women will be informed of this preventable risk.

Evidence Vitamin D May Lower Breast Cancer Risk

(Continued from page 1)

death) and inhibit blood vessel growth (angiogenesis) in both normal and malignant breast cells. By inhibiting cellular proliferation, fewer mutations and cancer cells would form. By inducing cellular differentiation, cells become cancer resistant. Cancers require new growth of blood vessels to supply it with the nutrients necessary for growth and metastasis. In rats, high levels of Vitamin D also inhibited tumor formation. Increased breast density is known to be a risk for breast cancer. Several studies have shown decreased breast density with increased levels of calcium and Vitamin D, supporting that Vitamin D may decrease breast cancer risk.

Golf Outing News!

(Continued from page 1)

Please mark your calendar
for our

**Second Annual
GOLF BCPI OUTING!**

Come join us for a day
filled with fun, laughter
and good friends!



Announcing Recent Additions to the BCPI Website and an Upcoming New Brochure

Two of our publications have been translated into Spanish:

Breast Cancer Risks and Prevention, 4th Edition
If it's not OK for him to take steroids...why is it OK for her?

We hope to have the Spanish version available in printed form soon, but both items **are** available **now** to view and download from our website. They can be found on our “**Online Publications**” page. (<http://www.bcpinstitute.org/onlinepub.htm>)



Also newly added to the BCPI website is a **Fact Sheet** entitled, “**Factors Which Increase and Decrease Breast Cancer Risk.**” This Fact Sheet is available in both English and Spanish. (<http://www.bcpinstitute.org/factshts.htm>)

Coming soon to our website is a new informational brochure suitable for high school and college students. As with our other materials, it will be available to read in its entirety on our website.

www.bcpinstitute.org

A REMINDER!

If you move or change your mailing or email address, please send us an email and let us know. It helps us save on postage costs for our mailing when we have up-to-date information.



Email: info@bcpinstitute.org

You can also return the donation card to us with your new address information. Be sure to check the box letting us know the information is new.

The **Breast Cancer Prevention Institute** is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation, with headquarters at
30 Rehill Ave, Suite 3400, Somerville, NJ 08876 USA
Phone toll-free: 1-86-NO CANCER (1-866-622-6237) • www.bcpinstitute.org
Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.