

Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program

Pal, Tuya

*Risk Assessment Detection Intervention
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute*

*2010 Program
Research Project Grant
(5-year project)*

Project Title: Inherited Cancer Registry (I CARE) Initiative

Project Summary: The discovery of the BRCA genes almost 15 years ago allows us to identify people who have changes in these genes. A woman with a gene change has a high chance to develop breast and ovarian cancer. Yet, it is still difficult to spot people with these changes due to the small number of medical experts familiar with the BRCA genes. As such, many practitioners and patients in the community are not aware of these genes. Roughly 5 percent of all people with BRCA gene change know that they carry this change. Florida has the second highest number of new cancer cases and very few experts in the topic of Clinical Cancer Genetics. Because of this, many practitioners and patients are less aware of BRCA mutations, which could lead to misinformed healthcare decisions. We propose to boost information access about BRCA gene changes to healthcare providers and patients through an existing network of community practitioners called the Moffitt Affiliate Network (MAN). This would allow MAN practitioners to contact Moffitt-based experts for information on the identification and management of those with BRCA changes. Patients with BRCA changes from MAN sites would also be able to join our Inherited Cancer Registry (ICARE). This registry would carry out research on those with BRCA gene changes to develop better care options for them. The eventual goal of our efforts is to improve the care given to those with BRCA gene changes in Florida.