

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: Black Women: Etiology and Survival of Triple-negative Breast Cancers (BEST) Study

Project Summary: Young Black women get breast cancer less often than White women do, but are more likely to die from it. This may be caused by a type of aggressive breast cancer called triple negative (TN) disease, which is more common in Black women. We plan to study why young Black women get the more serious type of TN breast cancers. We will recruit 600 Black women diagnosed with breast cancer at or below age 50 through the Florida State Cancer Registry. Based on our earlier study in similar women, we believe we can accomplish our goals. We will collect information about each participant through a detailed questionnaire, medical records review, and genetic testing. The participants will be followed every two years for the duration of the study to track how they do. Our study provides no-cost genetic counseling and testing for the participants. The test results could allow participants and their families to make important decisions about their healthcare. Our research team includes Black community members, who help us make sure our research is relevant; recruitment and study procedures are conducted in a sensitive manner; and help us share important findings with the Black community. Through our study, we hope to better understand why young Black women get TN breast cancers and why they die from the disease more often. Ultimately, we need this information to lower the number of TN breast cancers in these women.