

New studies show strong Abortion-Breast Cancer link in Asia; cover-up continues in the West

by Joel Brind PhD

2013 has been a very eventful year in research on the abortion-breast cancer link (ABC link), with 3 peer-reviewed studies published in regional medical journals. On the Asian subcontinent, one matched case-control study from southern India and one from Bangladesh reported statistically significant odds ratios (The OR is a measure of relative risk.) of unprecedented magnitude, 6.4 and 20.6, respectively. That is, compared to women with no induced abortion history, women who had at least one abortion were 6.4-fold more likely to develop breast cancer in the study by R. Kamath et al. in Karnataka, India, published in the **Indian Journal of Community Medicine**. In the Dhaka, Bangladesh study by S. Jabeen et al. published in the **Journal of the Dhaka Medical College**, women with any induced abortion history were more than 20-fold more likely to develop breast cancer. These strong links are of the sort of magnitude that has typified the link between cigarettes and lung cancer, and much higher than the ABC link has typically shown in the West, where it has averaged only about 1.3.

The difference can be explained by the fact that we are dealing here with *relative* risks, which depends upon the incidence of the disease in the absence of the risk factor. In the West, a multitude of risk factors has made breast cancer a relatively common disease over the course of the last century, whereas breast cancer has been quite rare in most of Asia until very recently. Since most of the known risk factors are related to reproductive patterns, in countries where almost all women are married at a young age, do not take contraceptive steroids ("the pill") and start having children young and breastfeed them all, breast cancer is typically quite rare.

Hence, we can take a lifetime risk of about 10% (including all risk factors except for abortion) in the West, and see that a relative risk of 1.3 raises that to 13% ($10\% \times 1.3 = 13\%$). In the same way, we can take a country where the lifetime risk is only 0.5% and factor in a relative risk of 7, we would raise that to 3.5% ($0.5\% \times 7 = 3.5\%$), again, adding 3% to the lifetime risk.

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New study supports the biologic basis of ABC Link

by Angela Lanfranchi, MD

Published this past July in the journal **Cell Stem Cell** is a study by an international group of researchers which found that a full-term pregnancy reduced the number of progenitor or stem cells in the breast. These stem cells undergo mitosis to form the milk producing cells and therefore can undergo mutations leading to the formation of cancer. These researchers found that the more stem cells a woman has, the higher her risk for breast cancer. They hope that they can develop a test that will allow them to know a woman's breast cancer risk by checking a "marker" or equivalent for these stem cells. Readers of our BCPI brochure on "*Breast Lobule Maturation and Breast Cancer Risk*" know that it is only Type 1 and 2 lobules that form breast cancers and these are reduced in numbers after a full-term pregnancy. Type 1 and 2

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A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT...

It's been over 10 years since the February 2003 National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Workshop. It concluded that abortion was not a risk factor for breast cancer. It even concluded that there was no need for further studies as there was such certitude.

And yet, as Dr Brind has written about in this BCPI report, in the past year there have been 2 studies showing abortion was a statistically significant risk and a very poorly designed study did not. In fact, since 2003 there have been 18 studies showing a positive correlation between abortion and breast cancer, 13 of which were statistically significant.

Political pressure and scientific misconduct seems to influence studies done by the NCI.

You can read about a study in which National Institute of Health (NIH) grantees were given a questionnaire in which 15.5% admitted that they "had changed the design, methodology, or results of a study in response to pressure from a funding source." In other words, the scientists felt pressure from the NIH to commit scientific fraud. The NCI is a part of the NIH. The study was published in the June 2005 edition of the journal **Nature** in the Commentary section. The article's title was aptly called "*Scientists behaving badly.*"

For the past several years I have been working with two organizations and other authors to produce some materials that will make it very hard for any scientist to deny the link between abortion and breast cancer. I am very hopeful that, in the next BCPI Report, I will be able to share those works with you.



Angela Lafranchi, MD, FACS

3rd Annual BCPI Golf Outing a Success

by Robert Gerling

This year's BCPI golf event was in honor of **Charnette Messe** who succumbed to breast cancer in December, 2011. She and her husband, who is a physician, have supported BCPI for over 10 years. Charnette was featured on the BCPI video,

"ABC Link – What every woman has the right to know,"

a copy of which was given to everyone who attended or supported the outing. She will be remembered as a beautiful, courageous woman and friend.

BCPI's 3rd annual golf outing was held on Friday, June 28th, at the beautiful Cranbury Golf Club in West Windsor, NJ.

It was a beautiful, clear day and golfers showed up early to hit some balls at the range and enjoy a delicious continental breakfast before the 10:00 tee off. Players were greeted on the second hole with the first of 5 '**hole-in-one**' contests; this one, a 175 yard par three for a 2013 Volvo. There were a lot of laughs and a few birdies, but we'll have to wait till next year to see if someone will drive away with a brand new 2014 Volvo.

At the turn golfers enjoyed a hot dog and a beer (I went for the root beer), giving all of us the energy to finish the back nine while working up an appetite for the BBQ dinner with chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers, corn on the cob and all the trimmings.

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But what is truly alarming is what happens when even very conservative risk estimates are applied to the vast populations of India and China, for example, which together include over one billion women. Even an increase in lifetime risk of 2% translates to 20 million women. At a 50% mortality rate (much higher than in the West, at this point), we are talking about 10 million women dying of breast cancer during the coming decades, as a consequence of abortion, in India and China alone!

But alas, abortion is not a risk factor for breast cancer, according to the US National Cancer Institute (NCI) and other official purveyors of cancer risk information. And in the face of the new and very straightforward studies summarized above from the sub-continent, comes a very peculiar study from Denmark by C. Braüner et al, published in the *Acta Obstetrica et Gynecologica Scandinavica* this year. The authors' stark blanket conclusion: "Our study did not show evidence of an association between induced abortion and breast cancer risk," is entirely unjustifiable on the basis of the highly restricted sample they studied, as I state in my letter just published in the same journal.

Specifically, the study was comprised of Danish women recruited during the 1990's who were 50-65 years old, and followed for breast cancer incidence for an average of 12 years. But the study population was further restricted in a most unusual way: All women who had no children were excluded, as well as any women who had any breast cancer history at recruitment. Therefore, in order for a woman who had an abortion to be in the Braüner study, she had to have at least one child and be breast cancer free for an average of 28 years since her abortion (based on published Danish vital statistics). This selection neatly eliminated the women most vulnerable to the cancer risk-increasing effects of abortion. Although such a study, if valid, can provide some useful information about residual risk in the surviving population decades after abortion, it is also subject to substantial bias, since only 38% of eligible women chose to participate after all. UK researcher Patrick Carroll has also published a critical letter about the Braüner study, citing the possibility of such selection bias, especially considering the existence of hard medical record data available for these Danish women.

In any event, the Braüner study's data can certainly not justify the overall continuing denial of the ABC link, which will clearly cost so many women their health and their lives worldwide.

A full list of all studies concerning the ABC Link from 1957-2013 can be found at:

http://www.bcpinstitute.org/epidemiology_studies_bcp.htm

New study supports the biologic basis of ABC Link

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lobules are made of cells which have different genes turned off and on from Type 4 lobules which form after 32 weeks of pregnancy and continue to form until full term at 40 weeks. It is why having children lowers breast cancer risk. The breast cells which form the lobules do not become cancer resistant until they are able to produce breast milk through the process of terminal differentiation. These milk producing cells are found in Type 4 lobules. Terminally differentiated cells do not undergo mitosis, and therefore are not susceptible to forming mutations or cancer cells. The mother will get the cancer protection even if she does not breast feed her baby. However, if she does breast feed, she will further reduce her risk of breast cancer in proportion to the length of time she breast feeds.

Third Annual Golf Outing...

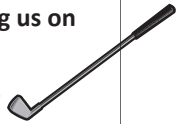
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During dinner we handed out prizes for the closest to the pin, longest drive, and low team score. We also had a great response to the silent auction with some beautiful gift baskets at bargain deals.

All-in-all, it was a great day, some good shots, some not so good, but a lot of laughs and great fun. It was an easy way to support the Breast Cancer Prevention Institute.

We want to thank everyone who supported BCPI, whether through your generous donations in our 'Ad' book, gifts for the silent auction, one of our many sponsorships, or as a player. We are most grateful for you all. Please consider joining us again next year.

Mark your calendars and plan on joining us on
Friday, June 6th, 2014,
for the 4th Annual Golf Outing....
and bring some friends!



Spanish Booklets and Brochures Are Here!!!

After many years of trying to get a Spanish translation for our Risk and Prevention Booklet, we have succeeded through the efforts of a loyal BCPI supporter from Vancouver Canada. Brent Rooney is a medical researcher who in 1999 provided a substantial gift of seed money to start BCPI. He has been a faithful supporter ever since. He constantly finds newly published breast cancer studies to keep us up to date. Through dogged persistence he contacted the late Magaly Llaguno who knew an Ob-Gyn in Nicaragua who graciously translated the booklet. Dr Rafael J. Cabrera-Artola is a Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Bioethics. Brent is a published researcher on prematurity including its link with abortion, mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy, and epilepsy. His web site, Justice for Kids, can be found at:

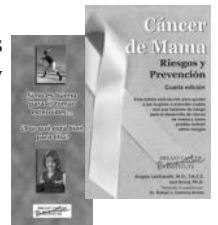
<http://justiceforkids.webs.com/>.

Our popular brochure on the risk of steroidal contraception was also translated by a physician through the persistent efforts of another loyal BCPI supporter, Virginia Bentley. After contacting BCPI and suggesting we get the brochure translated, she was told we didn't have the funds or a translator although BCPI had tried. Through her own efforts, she found another gracious physician, Lilliana Cote de Bejarano, MD, to translate. These brochures are used frequently by teachers of Natural Family Planning to encourage women to avoid the risks of hormonal contraception and instead use observations of their own bodies to determine when they are fertile.

With the contributions of BCPI supporters we were able to raise the funds to very recently get these materials printed.

Please visit our website for ordering information and to view these materials online:

<http://www.bcpinstitute.org/order.htm>



A REMINDER! If you move or change your mailing or email address, if you receive multiple copies of our BCPI Report, or if you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please send us an email to let us know. It helps us save on postage costs for our mailing when we have up-to-date information.

Email: info@bcpinstitute.org

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