

***The Relation Between Ovarian Cancer, Breast Feeding And Oral Contraceptives Unraveled***

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As per one of the research papers from the University of Pennsylvania, three important factors have been identified to have control over ovarian cancer. Studies indicate that among women with BRCA gene mutations breast-feeding, oral contraceptives and tubal ligation seemed to reduce the occurrence of ovarian cancer. This research was conducted by one of the research teams from the Bassler Research Centre for BRCA, University of Pennsylvania and the Abramson Cancer Center.

From the earlier researches, we know that two genes namely BRCA1 and BRCA2 contributed to the production of proteins that suppressed tumor growth in the body. These two genes helped in making the genetic material stable reducing the chances of ovarian cancer. If any mutations occur with any of the two genes namely BRCA1 and BRCA2 then it may not produce the proteins required to suppress the tumor development. Women that have BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations therefore have higher chances of developing ovarian cancer. It has been identified that mutations of BRCA1 and BRCA2 are responsible for 15% ovarian cancers.

As per the latest studies from the University of Pennsylvania, the use of tubal ligation and breast-feeding minimized the rate of ovarian cancer among women with BRCA1 mutation carriers. Similarly, oral contraceptives seemed to help both BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations.

This research also enabled the team also to identify factors that increased the risk of cancer among people with BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations. The research indicates that women with BRCA2 mutation will increase their chances of breast cancer with smoking. Though these findings require further research, the findings certainly point to possible non-surgical solutions to ovarian cancer reduction options. The chances of ovarian cancer are reduced normally through surgical removal of ovaries.

This research was lead by Timothy R. Rebbeck, PhD., Risk Reduction Program Leader at Penn Medicine's Abramson Cancer Centre. This research also points to the fact that one need not surrender to heredity factors as far as BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations ovarian cancer. One can reduce the risks by taking positive steps. Earlier studies have that, women who inherit BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation genes have a very high chance of developing breast cancer.

The research teams insights were based on the analysis of 44 peer reviewed studies that matched the predefined criteria. The research however noted that the above factors that seemed to have control over ovarian cancer do not seem to have any effect on breast cancer. It has to be noted here that previous researches indicated that oral contraceptives actually increased the occurrence of breast cancer. The findings of these studies are supposed to be

qualified by healthcare service providers and patients should not try to take control of the things and blindly use oral contraceptives in an effort to minimize the ovarian cancer risks. The research team has very clearly indicated that further research is required to draw decisive conclusions on these findings. The research team strongly feels that the latest findings should be considered in conjunction with the past researches.