WHO'S AT RISK?

- Grandmother 32 yrs
- Daughter 36 yrs
- Daughter 32 yrs
- Daughter 42 yrs
- Daughter 44 yrs
- Grand Daughter 31 yrs
- Grand Daughter 30 yrs
- Grand Daughter 46 yrs
- Grand Daughter 38 yrs
- Great Grand Daughter 25 yrs
- Great Grand Daughter 26 yrs
- Great Grand Daughter 24 yrs

kConFab Cancer Research
Is someone you love at risk?

About 10,000 Australian families carry a breast cancer genetic fault. They have an increased risk of developing breast cancer. To find out more about these mutations we collect biological samples and genetic, medical and social information from families with strong histories of breast cancer. This information is used to study familial breast cancer - how to prevent it and smarter and faster ways to detect and treat it more effectively.

We have only ONE aim... to prevent breast cancer in women and men with a high genetic risk.
What the experts say about kConFab:

“kConFab, based in Australia, represents one of the most rigorously established and managed facilities world wide...it is a world class research resource in the area of human genetics of breast cancer”

Independent international NH&MRC reviewer 2005

“Australian scientists and clinicians working with kConFab have one of the world's best breast cancer research resources. I would like to see the international effort modelled along similar lines to those used by kConFab, which maps the genetic make up of all cancers. It would be a 20-year leap forward in the fight against cancer.”

Bruce Stillman, PhD, FRS, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York
One in eleven Australian women will be diagnosed with breast cancer

But the risk is not spread evenly - those women with a family history are at higher risk.

Those at highest risk belong to families who have mutations in the breast cancer genes, the best known being BRCA1 and BRCA2. The mutations are passed from one generation to the next.

Everyone who inherits a mutation is at increased risk of developing cancer: breast and ovarian cancer in women, breast and prostate cancer in men – yes, men also develop breast cancer in high risk families. All too often these genetic cancers arise early in life, often during childbearing years and the middle of a career.

We can help. People with strong family histories of breast and ovarian cancer can now be offered genetic testing to discover whether they carry a mutation in one of the known breast cancer genes. Frequent clinical surveillance to detect breast cancer at its earliest stage, when the chance of a cure is greater, is also available.
Who we are and where we work

kConFab brings together more than 100 researchers, cancer geneticists, clinicians, surgeons, genetic counsellors, psychosocial researchers, oncologists, pathologists and epidemiologists - from all over Australia and New Zealand.

Cancer specialists and researchers are based at 42 public hospitals and medical research institutions in all States and Territories in Australia and New Zealand.

Outreach clinics are also serviced in remote areas of New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and Canberra.
We are the major driver of breast cancer research in Australia and provide lifestyle data and biological samples to more than 50 research projects here and overseas.

We collect family histories, biological samples and comprehensive life style and clinical data from “high risk” Australian families. We are regarded as one of the best publicly-available resources for familial breast cancer in the world.

We are the major driver of breast cancer research in Australia and provide lifestyle data and biological samples to more than 50 research projects here and overseas.

“kConFab is virtually unique in terms of the quality with which families have been characterised and data collected”

Independent international NHMRC reviewer 2005
We MUST do more research. We MUST reach more families.

We MUST...

- Identify ALL the genes responsible for familial breast cancer.
- Discover the best ways to detect tumours at the earliest stages.
- Pinpoint the genetic and lifestyle factors that may help protect against the disease.

We need hundreds, perhaps thousands, of families to generate enough statistical evidence to provide the best possible advice, surveillance and treatment.
“There is a clear need for a facility of this kind given the common occurrence of breast cancer and the impact of familial cancer on affected women (and men)”

Independent international NHMRC reviewer 2005

To find these answers we will:

- Continue to enrol hundreds of high risk families.
- Remain in close contact with these families for many more years – at least until 2030. Because the risk of cancer is passed from generation to generation, our work is long term.
- Keep pace with advancing technology, taking advantage of the technical advances flowing from mapping the human genome.

RESEARCH NEEDS TIME and MONEY
We need $10 million over the next 5 years
How is kConFab supported?

Since its inception in 1997, we have been supported entirely by competitive grants from National and State funding bodies. We will continue to seek this funding but Government agencies cannot continue indefinitely – kConFab needs new sources to secure enduring funding.

We need to be able to double our annual budget.

Huge improvements in technology during the past decade have provided the power to solve genetic problems that were previously beyond reach. We need funds to bring these technologies on stream and use them to solve problems evident in our families.

YOU know someone with breast cancer... how can YOU help?
You can help by:

- Donation
- Support of our fundraising activities
- As an ambassador

Whether an individual or a corporation you can support this world class research with a donation to the National Breast Cancer Foundation for kConFab. Remember, however you make your donation ensure you mark it for kConFab research.

Contact the Friends of kConFab to arrange a meeting with one of our leading researchers. Phone kConFab on 03 9656 1542 or our toll free number 1800 221 894 or NBCF on 02 9299 4090.

Visit www.nbcf.org.au and use the online donation facility.

Send your cheque made out to National Breast Cancer Foundation to GPO Box 4126 Sydney 2001

Donate using your credit card by calling the NBCF on 02 9299 4090

For further information about kConFab visit the home site at www.kconfab.org
We need your help

Because we are a national consortium, funds donated to Friends of kConFab need to be managed by a national group such as the National Breast Cancer Foundation (NBCF).

NBCF is Australia’s leading not-for-profit organisation established to promote and support research of breast cancer. It has awarded more than $20 million for new research since its formation in 1994.

NBCF will provide a legal entity for all funds raised to be held ready for distribution to kConFab.

How will you know about our progress

We will keep you informed in a number of ways:

- Friends of kConFab newsletter
- Annual Report
- Meet and greet opportunities to hear first hand from our researchers
- Website updates
Dr Kathleen Cuningham was a pioneer of breast cancer treatment in Australia. Her career as a surgeon spanned 43 years. Born on 2nd November 1898, she gained the Degree of Master of Surgery at the University of Sydney in 1939. The Kathleen Cuningham Foundation (KCF), a breast cancer research support organization, was formed in 1994. The KCF provided the funding to start our research study, which we named kConFab - the Kathleen Cuningham Consortium for research on Familial breast cancer – in her honour.

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