October is National Breast Cancer Awareness month. Do you have questions or concerns about breast cancer? Click here to find out how to have one of Karmanos' Breast Cancer Specialists contact you directly.

**Facts about BRCA1 and BRCA2**

- BRCA1 and BRCA2 stand for breast cancer susceptibility gene 1 and breast cancer susceptibility gene 2, respectively.

- BRCA1 and BRCA2 are human genes that suppress tumors. Mutations of these genes have been linked to the development of hereditary cancers of the breast (in women and men), ovary, prostate and pancreas, as well as melanoma.

- These gene mutations put a person at increased risk for these cancers, but not every person with a mutation will develop cancer.

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**Double Mastectomy - It’s not the only option for women at increased breast cancer risk**

Last May, Oscar-winning actress Angelina Jolie announced that she had a double mastectomy, even though she hadn’t been diagnosed with cancer.

Jolie chose to undergo the procedure because genetic testing revealed she has a mutation of the BRCA1 gene. Women with a BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutation have up to an 87 percent increased risk of breast cancer. After a double mastectomy, that risk drops to 10 percent or less.

Many women wonder what they'd do if they were in Jolie’s shoes. Does a BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation mean you have to have a double mastectomy? Read more

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**Join Mix 92.3 this weekend for the 16th Annual Sista Strut Breast Cancer Walk, plus check out other events benefiting Karmanos**

The walk will be held this Saturday, Oct. 5, at the Detroit River Walk – Rivard Plaza. The Sista Strut program begins at 9 a.m., and the walk will kick off at 10 a.m. The registration deadline is Oct. 4.

The goal of Sista Strut is to heighten awareness about the issues of breast cancer in women of color, as well as provide information on community resources. Proceeds
In most cases, the BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene mutations are inherited. The mutations are more common in people of Ashkenazi Jewish (Central/Eastern European) descent.

A simple blood test can determine if you have a gene mutation.

Source: Nancie Petrucelli, MS, CGC, senior genetic counselor/coordinator, Karmanos Cancer Genetic Counseling Service

Friends Raising Funds events to support Karmanos

Through Friends Raising Funds events, essential funds are raised to support vital cancer programs at the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Please take a minute to view "Events to Support Karmanos" at the bottom of this email to see how you can participate in the fight against cancer through these fundraisers. All of the events listed below are open to the public.

For more information on how to give to the Institute through hosting your own event, visit our Friends Raising Funds page or contact Katy Kaliszewski, Friends Raising Funds Coordinator: (313) 576-8112 or kaliszek@karmanos.org.

Community Partnerships

The Karmanos Cancer Institute is proud to be affiliated with the community-minded businesses and organizations listed below. Through our exciting partnerships, essential funds are raised to support cancer research, patient care and prevention, education and cancer screening programs.

Apparel/Jewelry - Accessorize It, Count Me Healthy, Made In Detroit, PrettyPretti Accessories and stick i wear
Food/Beverage - Better Made Snack Foods, Dip Stix and Stuff, Peteet's Famous Cheesecake and Sanders Candy
Gifts - Sock Monkeys for the Cure
Online Endevors - Hippino
Other - Jim Riehl's Automotive Group, Taking Our Lives Back 2014 Calendar, Duncan Disposal Systems, Fraza Forklifts, Hamilton's Propane, The Detroit Shoppe and Tire Traxx
Party Supplies - Party Supplies Delivered

Karmanos Cancer Institute
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Detroit, Michigan 48201
(800) KARMANOS
(1-800-527-6266)
karmanos.org
Events to Support Karmanos

- C-Wonder VIP Grand Opening, Oct. 3
- The Sista Strut Pink Gala, Oct. 4
- Partners Night, Oct. 5
- Mix 92.3 16th Annual Sista Strut Breast Cancer Walk 2013, Oct. 5 registration deadline: Oct. 4
- Late Summer Golf Classic, Oct. 5
- Bra-Za, Oct. 5
- 10th Annual Kay McDevitt Golf Outing, Oct. 10
- Detroit Red Wings Breast Cancer Awareness Night, Oct. 12
- Detroit Free Press Talmer Bank Marathon, Oct. 20
- Macy’s Pink Party Fashion Show, Oct. 26
- Wicked Halloween Run 10K, 5K, Monster Mile, Oct. 27
- Scope it Out 5K Run/Walk Detroit, Nov. 2
- Sky Foundation’s 5th Annual Luncheon, Nov. 3

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