

May 23, 2017

RE: *PALB2* Study to Evaluate Patient Outcomes



Dear Colleague,

We are writing to tell you about a new study to evaluate outcomes of individuals with pathogenic or likely pathogenic *PALB2* mutations. This study is a partnership between our groups based in Toronto, Canada and Nashville, Tennessee. The underlying premise of our efforts stems from our recent observations which suggest that *PALB2* carriers are more likely to develop aggressive breast cancers, possibly with poorer outcomes.¹ The goals of the proposed study are to collect information needed to refine treatment among women with a *PALB2* mutation and breast cancer, in order to improve their outcomes.

We request your help in making this study known to your patient(s). Furthermore, if your patient agrees to be contacted by our study team, please provide current contact information for your patient by email (ICARE@InheritedCancer.net) or phone (615-875-2444). You may also direct them to our website, <http://inheritedcancer.net/palb2-study/>, where they may learn more about this study or directly enroll online through ICARE. Additionally, patient referrals to these efforts can contribute to your program's National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC) and Commission on Cancer (CoC) accreditation research requirements.

Additional educational opportunities available to you include: 1) attendance at our web-based monthly genetic case conferences and 2) access to bi-annual newsletters focused on inherited cancer predisposition (additional information available at: <http://inheritedcancer.net>). If these may be of interest to you, please let us know and we are happy to provide you with additional details.

For more information, you or your patients may contact us by phone (615-875-2444) or email (ICARE@InheritedCancer.net).

We thank you for your consideration in collaborating on this study.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Tuya Pal in black ink.

Tuya Pal, MD, FACMG
Clinical Geneticist
Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Handwritten signature of Kelly Metcalfe in black ink.

Kelly Metcalfe, RN, PhD
Faculty of Nursing
University of Toronto

Handwritten signature of Steven Narod in purple ink.

Steven Narod, MD, FRCPC, FRSC
Chair of Breast Cancer Research
Women's College Hospital

¹Cybulski C, Kluzniak W, Huzarski T, et al. (2015) Clinical outcomes in women with breast cancer and a *PALB2* mutation: a prospective cohort analysis. *Lancet Oncol*, 16(6), 638-44.