



APRIL 2025 | VOLUME 10 | ISSUE 98

PCCM MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Prashanti Cancer Care Mission's Newsletter

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WHAT'S IN THIS LATEST ISSUE?

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Ms. Busheri was honored at the Trailblazer Award event organized by FICCI FLO, Pune for her Impact in Breast Cancer Care

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The seventh session of the Prashanti Cancer Care Mission's Pink Ribbon Support Group Webinar Series was held on 12th of March 2025

CTCR's RT-PCR Phase III, Lecture IV titled, "Patient-Reported Outcome Measurement in Breast Cancer Research and Clinical Care"

CTCR's RT-PCR Phase III, Lecture V titled, "Snehit Brisk Tool: A Tailored Breast Cancer Risk Prediction Model for the Indian Subcontinent"

Ms. Smera Thejasri M T, a project student at IISER Pune, presented a poster in the Computational Oncology Workshop 2025.

Ms. Sampada Gute, Mr. Bhavesh Vasave & Mr. Vedant Ingavale Master's students from IISER Pune successfully submitting their theses under the guidance of Dr. Madhura Kulkarni (Translational Research Lead PCCM-CTCR

ABOUT PCCM NEWSLETTER

PCCM Newsletter is our way of connecting with our patients and supporters. With the Newsletter we bring to you the latest updates of our activities at PCCM. Along with our continued efforts for the provision of state-of-the-art integrative care for our patients through Orchids Breast Health Care, we include updates from the research arm at PCCM, Centre for Translational Cancer Research (CTCR). CTCR an initiative between PCCM and IISER Pune is working towards addressing breast cancer research questions relevant to our society, as well as our capacity building initiatives International School of Oncoplasty in collaboration with University of East Anglia, UK and online learning platform BreastGlobal. Your support and encouragement is what keeps us going, be a part of our journey with the newsletter.

Prashanti Cancer Care Mission (PCCM) is a registered NGO established in 1995. It was born out of the unfulfilled desire of departed cancer patients, caregivers, doctors and the community basically to provide freeship to patients who either didn't start treatment or abandoned their treatment halfway due to lack of funds. Today this organization has grown to provide freeships in diagnostics, surgeries, chemotherapy, radiation, pharmacy and much more. It helps the patient and their families through the bewildering maze of challenges the disease brings to its wake.

Recognizing the need for holistic care, PCCM has further expanded its services to include free complementary support such as nutritional counseling, genetic counseling, and onco-psychology services.

This month alone, the following number of patients have benefitted from free complementary counseling services at PCCM:

- Nutrition Counseling 7 patients
- Genetic Counseling: 15 patients
- Onco-Psychology Counseling: 22 patients

Witness the profound impact of these services through the patient testimonials below:

Testimonial from a patient who utilized the complementary counseling services at our centre

Genetic Testing at Jehangir's Orchid Breast Centre

I was diagnosed of breast cancer, DCIS in 2021, at the age of 45. I went through a lumpectomy and radiation as part of the treatment.

Post which I was suggested a genetic testing if required.

I did my testing this year in 2025 and it was a really smooth experience. As a survivor one is already a little stressed & scared of the annual mammograms and sonograms, so when this additional test was suggested I was a little more stressed. The process was a simple blood test and pre-counselling done by Dr. Mansi Munshi, who also did my radiation.

The Genetic Testing process experience was as good as my radiation with Dr. Munish.

Dr. Munshi & her assistant Ms. Christina both were efficient and explained the whole process to me very well. It eased a lot of my stress too.

The result too was delivered on time.

I would like to thank Dr. Munshi & Christina for making it a seamless and stress free process for me.

Radhika Nadkarny



Unfiltered, real voices straight from the heart

To

Dr. Koppiker Sir,

I am so thankful for your kindness, empathy, and exceptional medical skills. You are an outstanding healthcare provider.

I am also grateful for the compassionate and expert care I received from Sister Salomi, Sister Ruth, Sister Smita, Jyoti Mam, Vandana mam and all your technical & non technical staff. You all made a difficult experience more manageable.

I was impressed by the professionalism and expertise of the medical staff. Thank you for making my treatment experience of Mrs. Rajani Thorat as smooth and stress-free as possible. Words cannot express my gratitude for the exceptional medical care Mrs. Rajani Thorat has received. You have made a significant impact on her life, and I am forever grateful.

Thank you for being an angel of mercy during her time of need. Your care, compassion, and expertise have given her a second chance at life.

Mrs. Rajani Thorat feels blessed to have received such outstanding medical treatment. Your dedication to your patients' well-being is truly inspiring.

Thank you once again Sir! 🌹🙏

Mrs Ujjwala Rajesh Kulkarni
On behalf of
Mrs Rajani Uday Thorat.

Shakuntala Pundkar

I would like to place my sincere thanks to all the Doctors and staff of Oncology department of Jehangir hospital for treatment of my mother Shakuntala Pundkar Age 74. Especially to Dr Koppiker Sir and Dr Namrata for the positive outlook for the life.

The department right from reception to the technician are very energetic and jovial. They all are there to bring fresh energy and light in so many life.

Cheers to the entire team. Bash on regardless.....🙏



Unfiltered, real voices straight from the heart

Amrit Kaur Jabbal

Our journey with Prashanti Cancer Care Mission has been truly remarkable from diagnosis onward. Their holistic approach began with Onco-Psychologist Vishesha compassionately explaining their research and comprehensive profiling process. The detailed attention to Mrs. Amrit's personal health journey showed their commitment to individualized care. Their nutritionist, Mrs. Pradhnya, developed a customized diet plan after thoroughly understanding Amrit's lifestyle habits. Ms. Christina provided clear, compassionate guidance on genetic testing and arranged convenient home sample collection. Dr. Mansi Munshi's expert explanation of the ATM gene mutation provided our family with crucial insights about hereditary implications. Throughout this challenging time, the entire Prashanti team demonstrated exceptional professionalism, empathy, and medical expertise, giving our family both clarity and peace of mind.

Best Regards, Bhupinder

Hareeni Thakkar

The team at Orchids was amazing, very friendly & approachable for any of my questions. Thankyou so much for all the support throughout my treatment last year. I'm healthy because of you all.



Dr. Koppiker presented a poster at the 19th St. Gallen Breast Cancer Conference, held from March 12-15, 2025, in Vienna, Austria.

Dr. Koppiker attended the 19th St. Gallen Breast Cancer Conference, scheduled from March 12-15, 2025, in Vienna, Austria. The conference featured a poster presentation from our center.

Our abstract, titled "Evaluating the Use and Feasibility of Indocyanine Green (ICG) in Sentinel Node Biopsy for Breast Cancer: Insights from an Oncoplastic Practice in India," was accepted for presentation. The study showcased our work on the feasibility of using Indocyanine Green (ICG) dye for Sentinel Node Biopsy in breast cancer. The poster was well received, highlighting the significance of this technique in improving surgical outcomes.



Ms. Busheri was honored at the Trailblazer Award event organized by FICCI FLO, Pune for her Impact in Breast Cancer Care

FICCI FLO Pune organized the Trailblazer Award event, where Ms. Busheri was honored for her notable contributions to the social cause. Her work in the field of breast cancer serves as an inspiration to others in creating positive change within communities.



Dr. Koppiker's article was featured in the 'Ask the Expert' section in Femina March 2025 issue.

The 'Ask the Expert' section of Femina March 2025 issue featured Dr. Koppiker's article on 'Neoadjuvant Systemic Therapies in Breast Cancer: Insights into Neo-adjuvant Chemotherapy Part III'

ASK THE EXPERT



— JEHANGIR HOSPITAL —
— Prashanti Cancer Care Mission —



JEHANGIR HOSPITAL
We All Care

NEOADJUVANT SYSTEMIC THERAPIES IN BREAST CANCER: INSIGHTS INTO NEO-ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY PART -III

Q

A

Dr. Chaityananand B. Koppiker
Breast Cancer, Breast Oncoplastic and Reconstruction Surgeon
Medical Director in Association with
Jehangir Hospital and Prashanti Cancer Care Mission, Pune India

Breast cancer treatment has come a long way, improving survival while preserving quality of life. But did you know that starting therapy before surgery can make a huge difference? Through this 3 part series We've been guiding you through Neoadjuvant Systemic Therapy (NAST)—which includes Neoadjuvant Hormone Therapy (NAHT) and Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy (NACT). Last time, we tackled NAHT. Now, let's dive into NACT—how it shrinks tumors, makes surgery less invasive, and improves outcomes.

WHAT IS NEOADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY (NACT)?
NACT is chemotherapy given before surgery to shrink the tumor, making it easier to remove while preserving more healthy tissue. It helps improve surgical outcomes and overall treatment effectiveness.

HOW IS NACT DIFFERENT FROM NEOADJUVANT HORMONE THERAPY (NAHT)?
Both are types of Neoadjuvant Systemic Therapy (NAST) but work differently:
NACT uses chemotherapy to kill rapidly growing cancer cells and is typically used for aggressive tumors like HER2+ and Triple-Negative Breast Cancer (TNBC).
NAHT uses hormone-blocking drugs to slow hormone-sensitive tumors (ER+ / PR+ cancers), making surgery more effective over time.

WHAT ARE THE OTHER POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF NACT?

- Neoadjuvant chemotherapy enables assessment of therapeutic efficacy, with complete pathologic response indicating better survival outcomes.
- Assesses new therapies and stops ineffective treatments early.
- Facilitates dose adjustment or drug changes in cases of resistance, reducing unnecessary toxicity and side-effects.
- It also supports individualized treatment approaches based on based on individual risk profiles.

WHICH SPECIFIC CHEMOTHERAPY DRUGS ARE USED FOR BREAST CANCER, AND HOW THEY ARE CHOSEN?
The choice of the chemotherapy drug depends on the type and stage of breast cancer. Chemotherapy drugs such as anthracyclines, 5- fluorouracils, taxanes, cyclophosphamides and carboplatin are some of the indicated drugs.

ARE CHEMOTHERAPY SIDE EFFECTS AS BAD AS THEY USED TO BE?
No! With advancements in anti-nausea drugs, targeted therapy, and better supportive care, many patients tolerate chemotherapy much better than before. Side effects are now less severe and more controllable. While hair loss remains a common side effect, it is usually temporary, hair typically begins to regrow once chemotherapy is completed.



DR. C. B. KOPPIKER

WHAT IS COMPLETE RESPONSE AFTER NEOADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY IN BREAST CANCER?
Pathological complete response (pCR) is defined as the complete absence of residual invasive cancer in the resected breast specimen and all examined regional lymph nodes, utilizing special staining techniques after completing neoadjuvant systemic therapy. It is associated with better survival outcomes.

ARE THERE ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS DURING CHEMOTHERAPY?
Patients are encouraged to maintain a healthy, balanced diet. At Orchid's Breast Health, by Jehangir Hospital and Prashanti Cancer Care Mission, certified nutrition counsellors assess each patient and create a personalized diet plan to support recovery and overall well-being.
For more information about breast cancer and its management, keep following our page every month.

Orchid Breast Health by Jehangir Hospital
and Prashanti Cancer Care Mission
32 Sassoon Road, Pune 411001
For appointments pls call
020 - 66811126 / 25656110
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/koppiker>
Dr. Chaityananand Koppiker | LinkedIn

ISOS Hands-on Oncoplastic workshop will be held on 26th & 27th April 2025.




Following the tremendous success of three workshops conducted last year, which covered a wide range of oncoplastic techniques from basic to advanced, this upcoming session of ISOS Hand-on Oncoplasty Workshop titled, ‘Essentials in Breast Surgery: Overview of Oncoplasty & Whole Breast Reconstruction – Implant & Autologous’ will be an overview of oncoplasty with a focus on Whole breast reconstruction using implants and autologous tissue.

Participants will gain valuable insights into advanced surgical practices through hands-on training and expert guidance.

Date: 26th-27th April 2025

Location: International School of Oncoplastic Surgery (ISOS), Pune

Click the link to send enquires: [Enquire Now](#) 

Contact Mr. Aditya Kamthe: 9665033955



ESSENTIALS IN BREAST SURGERY
OVERVIEW OF ONCOPLASTY & WBR:
IMPLANT & AUTOLOGOUS

Dates: 26th -27th APRIL 2025

- **Time:** Saturday : 8:00 am to 7:00 pm
Sunday : 9:00 am to 2:30 pm
- **Venue:** ISOS, Pune
- **Session-4 Fees :** Send an enquiry through the google form

REGISTRATION INCLUDES

-  Course Material
-  Lunch and Refreshments
-  Certificate of Participation
-  Networking Opportunity

INQUIRY
[GOOGLE FORM LINK](#)

9665033955 :
Program Coordinator

obs.koppiker@gmail.com www.breastoncoplasty.org

PCCM's Hands on Bio-banking Workshop 'Essentials in Biobanking and Workflow' will be held from July 4th-6th 2025

Prashanti Cancer Care Mission's (PCCM) Hands-on Biobanking Workshop will be a hands-on training session designed to educate clinicians, researchers, and healthcare professionals about the essentials of biobanking in the context of cancer research. The workshop will provide an in-depth understanding of tumor biobanking practices, collection methods, storage protocols, and their significance in translational cancer research.

Dates: July 4th-6th 2025

Location: Pune

This workshop also serves as a practical component for PCCM's RT-PCR course.

Click here to register: [▶ REGISTER NOW](#)

Contact Dr. Madhura Kulkarni: 9172679320

Prashanti Cancer Care Mission
Reaching out with excellence

HANDS-ON BIOBANKING WORKSHOP

Organized by PCCM

ESSENTIALS IN BIOBANKING: ETHICS AND WORKFLOW

3 Day Workshop
JULY 4TH-6TH 2025

DAY-01
INTRODUCTION

- Best Practices for Ethical and Legal Compliance
- Roles, SOPs and Workflow

DAY-02
HANDS-ON PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WITH BIOBANK SAMPLES

- Fresh Frozen
- FFPE

DAY-03
DATA MANAGEMENT

- Associated clinical data collection
- Data Curation

The Biobanking Workshop at Prashanti Cancer Care Mission (PCCM) is a hands-on training session designed to educate clinicians, researchers, and healthcare professionals about the essentials of biobanking in the context of cancer research. The workshop will provide an in-depth understanding of tumor biobanking practices, collection methods, storage protocols, and their significance in translational cancer research.

Venue: Pune

conference@prashantcancer.org

Prashanti Cancer Care Mission
Reaching out with excellence

BAAJ

WORLD'S FAVORITE INDIAN

BAAJ 8000

The fourth issue of Volume I of the BreastGlobal Journal is now available online.

Dr. Koppiker, along with his colleagues established the BreastGlobal platform to address knowledge gaps, offering a unified portal for experts, trainees, and industry to access global learning and training opportunities.

In collaboration with Wolters Kluwer publishers, BreastGlobal launched the 'BreastGlobal Journal' aimed at providing universal access to specialized breast training worldwide.

The journal features a distinguished editorial board and has already released three issues, with the fourth issue published in November 2024. BreastGlobal Journal is currently accepting submissions for future editions, and manuscripts can be submitted through the provided link.

Submit online: <https://review.jow.medknow.com/bgj>.

Please contact the editorial team at thebreastglobal@gmail.com

Journal's editorial board : <https://journals.lww.com/bgjr/pages/editorialboard.aspx>

Access all issues of the journal: <https://journals.lww.com/bgjr/pages/issuelist.aspx>



Dr. Sneha Joshi (Senior Scientist, PCCM-CTCR) was invited to present a talk at the the BIFF INTERONC 2025, SAU, Delhi Conference titled Integrating Science and Care : Pioneering Future of Oncology.

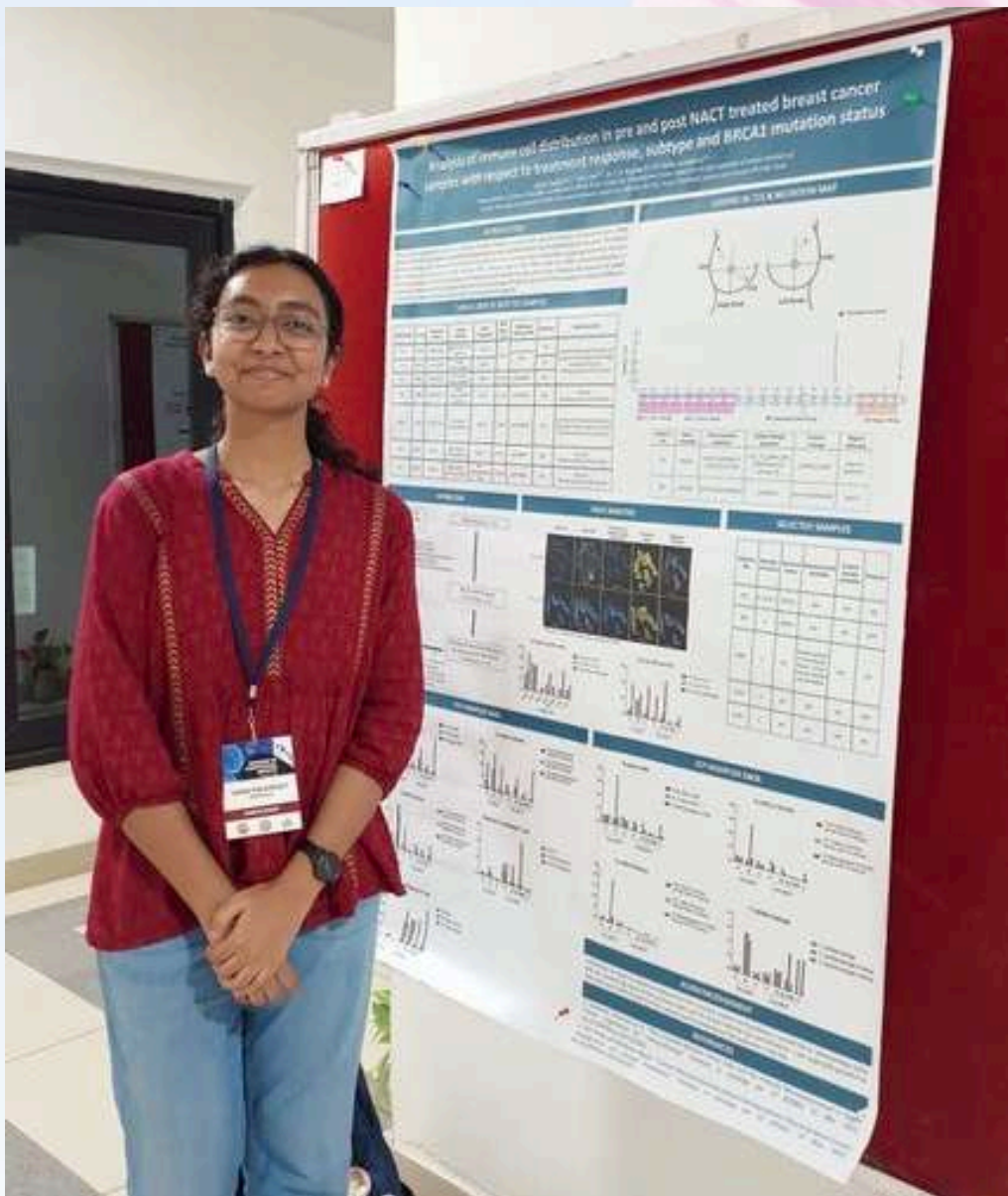
Dr. Sneha Joshi, Senior Scientist at PCCM-CTCR, was invited to present at the BIFF INTERONC 2025 Conference at SAU, Delhi, with her talk titled "Integrating Science and Care: Pioneering the Future of Oncology." In her presentation, she highlighted how PCCM integrates a patient-centered approach with clinical excellence and advanced research. Dr. Joshi discussed the Breast-Specific Biobank, the significance of multidisciplinary collaboration, and how innovative studies at PCCM are advancing personalized treatments and enhancing the quality of life for breast cancer patients.



Ms. Smera Thejasri M T, a project student at IISER Pune, presented a poster in the Computational Oncology Workshop 2025.

Ms. Smera Thejasri M T, a project student at IISER Pune, recently participated in the Computational Oncology Workshop 2025 at IIT Madras. The workshop provided an in-depth exploration of computational techniques in cancer research, emphasizing systems biology approaches to study the disease.

At the workshop, Ms. Smera presented a poster on an ongoing research project titled "Analysis of Immune Cell Distribution in Pre- and Post-NACT Treated Breast Cancer Samples with Respect to Treatment Response, Subtype, and BRCA1 Mutation Status." This significant work is co-authored by **Jisha John, Dr. C.B. Koppiker, and Dr. Madhura Kulkarni** (Translational Research Lead, PCCM-CTCR), highlighting a collaborative effort in understanding the immune landscape in breast cancer patients undergoing neoadjuvant chemotherapy.

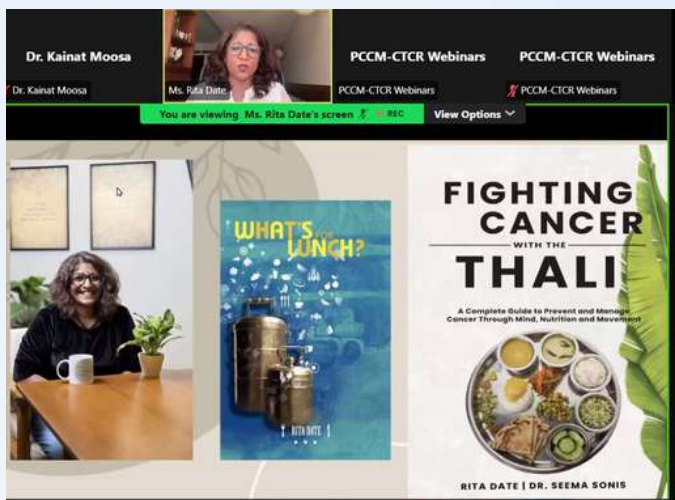


The seventh session of the Prashanti Cancer Care Mission's Pink Ribbon Support Group Webinar Series was held on 12th of March 2025

The Pink Ribbon Support Group Webinar Series, which was held every 2nd Wednesday of the month from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM IST on Zoom, concluded with its final session on March 12th. These webinars provided valuable insights for breast cancer patients & caregivers covering a wide range of topics, including breast cancer prevention, treatment options, survivorship, nutrition, mental well-being, and holistic healing approaches.

The final session of the Pink Ribbon Support Group Webinar Series featured Ms. Rita Date discussing " MNM: Mind Nutrition Movement for Cancer Patients". The session focused on the holistic approach to cancer care, emphasizing the importance of mental well-being, balanced nutrition, and physical movement in improving the quality of life for cancer patients.

During the webinar series attendees engaged in interactive discussions, gaining practical strategies to incorporate these elements into their daily routines for better recovery and overall wellness.



Prashanti Cancer Care Mission
Healing not with resistance

**PRASHANTI CANCER CARE MISSION'S
THE PINK RIBBON SUPPORT GROUP
WEBINAR SERIES**



**LECTURE 7
'MNM: Mind Nutrition Movement for
Cancer Patients'
MS. RITA DATE**
NUTRITIONIST, FOOD WRITER & YOGA
ADVOCATE

WEDNESDAY, 12TH MARCH 2025

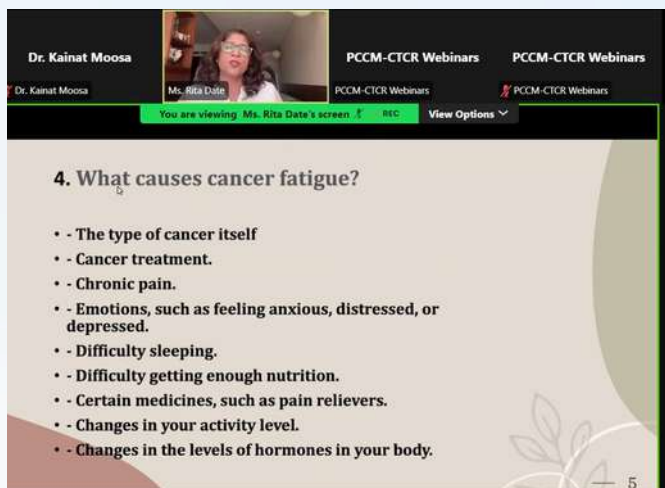
VIA ZOOM 4:00 P.M-5.00 P.M IST
(REGISTER NOW TO ATTEND THE WEBINAR)

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

For more information & registration, please call or email
+91-20-25656110 / 91-20-25650289
vcanshare@prashanticancer.org

www.prashanticancer.org
www.ctcr.in

***This online series is FREE & open to all. Invite your friends, caregivers, & anyone interested**



CTCR's RT-PCR Phase III, Lecture IV titled, "Patient-Reported Outcome Measurement in Breast Cancer Research and Clinical Care"

The Research Training Program for Clinicians and Residents (RT-PCR) by CTCR-PCCM is uniquely designed to encourage clinicians to integrate scientific research in their clinical practice and understand the process of scientific enquiry.

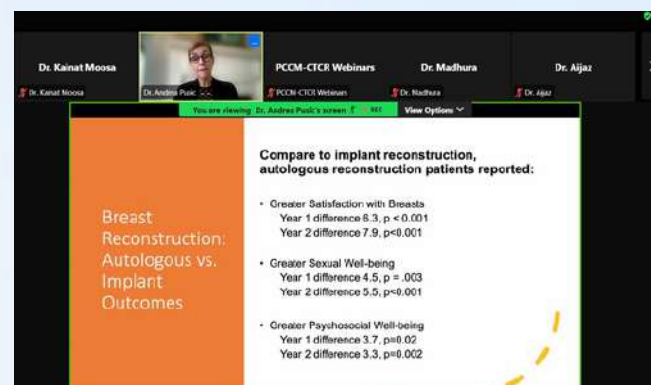


It has successfully completed Module-1 and Module-2, garnering more than 500 registrations. The RTPCR Phase III Module : 'Women Pioneers in Oncology Research and Practice' is an advanced 12-week online course, will feature renowned female scientists/clinicians working exclusively in oncology, offering participants an exceptional opportunity to explore cutting-edge research and its application in cancer treatment and prevention.

Click to Register for the course:



The fourth lecture of Phase 3 in the RTPCR course, titled "Patient-Reported Outcome Measurement in Breast Cancer Care and Clinical Research" took place on March 13th, 2025. The lecture was expertly led by Dr. Andrea Pusic. Being an International Women's Day special Webinar, this lecture explored the significance of Patient-Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) in breast cancer care and research. The lecture highlighted how tools like BREAST-Q capture patient perspectives on surgical outcomes, helping improve treatment decisions, quality of life, and clinical research. After the lecture, students participated in a Q&A session, allowing them to interact with the faculty.



CTCR's RT-PCR Phase III, Lecture V titled, "Snehita Brisk Tool: A Tailored Breast Cancer Risk Prediction Model for the Indian Subcontinent"

The Research Training Program for Clinicians and Residents (RT-PCR) by CTCR-PCCM is uniquely designed to encourage clinicians to integrate scientific research in their clinical practice and understand the process of scientific enquiry.



It has successfully completed Module-1 and Module-2, garnering more than 500 registrations. The RTPCR Phase III Module : 'Women Pioneers in Oncology Research and Practice' is an advanced 12-week online course, will feature renowned female scientists/clinicians working exclusively in oncology, offering participants an exceptional opportunity to explore cutting-edge research and its application in cancer treatment and prevention.

Click to Register for the course:



The fifth lecture of Phase 3 in the RTPCR course, titled "Snehita Brisk Tool: A Tailored Breast Cancer Risk Prediction Model for the Indian Subcontinent" took place on March 27th, 2025. The lecture was expertly led by Dr. Regi Jose. The talk highlighted epidemiological insights into breast cancer risk assessment, focusing on the development and validation of the population specific breast cancer risk prediction tool, Snehita. After the lecture, students participated in a Q&A session, allowing them to interact with the faculty.



BLOG

The Emotional Side of Genetic Testing: Understanding the Results and Moving Forward



Learning about a genetic predisposition to breast cancer empowers you to take control of your health. While it may bring questions, it also opens the door to proactive choices. Here's how you can navigate this journey with confidence and clarity.

- **Seek Guidance from Experts**

Genetic information can be complex. A consultation with a genetic counselor or a trusted doctor can help you fully understand what your results mean and how they may impact your health.



- **Genetic Mutations Indicate Risk, Not Certainty**

A genetic mutation increases the risk of breast cancer but does not guarantee its occurrence. Many factors, including lifestyle and medical history, influence overall risk.

- **Regular Screenings Support Early Detection**

Staying up to date with recommended medical check-ups and screenings can help detect potential concerns early, when they are most manageable.



- **Lifestyle Choices Play a Role**

Maintaining a healthy diet, engaging in regular physical activity, and managing stress can contribute to overall well-being and may help reduce cancer risk.

- **Preventive Options Are Available**

Risk-reducing strategies, including lifestyle modifications and medical interventions such as preventive surgeries, are options to discuss with your doctor.



- **Emotional Well-being Matters**

Processing genetic test results can be challenging. Seeking support from a counsellor, therapist, or support group can help manage anxiety and provide reassurance.

- **Advancements in Medicine Offer Hope**

Ongoing research in genetics, early detection, and treatment continues to improve outcomes, providing more options for prevention and care.



A genetic risk empowers you with knowledge, enabling you to take proactive steps to protect yourself.



RESEARCH UPDATES

We are glad to announce that Prashanti Cancer Care Mission now has its own property for the research centre, and the new address is as follows.

New Address: 21 Everjoy Bungalow Society, Next to NIBM Institute, before Clover Highlands, NIBM Road, Kondhwa, Pune, Maharashtra- 411 048.

We kindly request you to send all cheques, donations, letters, and posts to this updated address.



- Enhancing and Enriching the PCCM Database through collaborations with Elixir AI and Swasthya AI.
- Fresh frozen biopsy samples from 212 patients, along with 115 fresh frozen surgery samples, have been collected and stored at IISER.
- The CTCR Research team is actively preparing for a Hands-On Biobanking Workshop scheduled to be held from July 4th-6th 2025. This Workshop will be a hands-on training session designed to educate clinicians, researchers, and healthcare professionals about the essentials of biobanking.
- One session of Pink Ribbon Support Group Webinar Series and Two sessions of CTCR's RT-PCR Phase III Module Webinar were successfully conducted during the month of March.



RESEARCH UPDATES

Three Master's students from IISER Pune have reached significant academic milestones by successfully submitting their theses. Their year-long research, conducted under the guidance of Dr. Madhura Kulkarni, Translational Research Lead at PCCM-CTCR, leveraged patient data from PCCM's Orchid's Breast Health Centre.

Mr. Bhavesh Vasave has submitted a thesis titled, "Investigation of Regulation of YAP-Driven Tumorigenesis by Promoter Proximal Pausing." His study focused on PPP-mediated regulation of YAP target genes in an Indian cohort of breast cancer patient samples using Immunohistochemistry and also explored its mechanistic role in breast cancer cell lines using Knockdown studies and total RNA sequencing. Given the high prevalence of TNBC in India and its lack of targeted therapies, these findings offer potential insights into novel therapeutic strategies.

Ms. Sampada Ghute explored the prognostic significance of immunoproteasome expression in her thesis, "Prognostic Association of Immunoproteasome Expression and Its Correlation with Tumor-Infiltrating Lymphocytes in Breast Cancer." Sampada's thesis research focused on understanding the immunoproteasome expression in tumor cells and tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes (TILs) in breast cancer patients in an Indian cohort. Overall, our data suggests that understanding the immunoproteasome and its role in immune modulation could pave the way for novel biomarker-driven therapeutic strategies in breast cancer.

Mr. Vedant Ingawale has submitted his Master's Dissertation entitled "Investigating the Link between Collagen Deposition Patterns in the TME and Indian Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Patient Outcomes". This study explores the role of the TME, particularly collagen deposition in the TME, in determining TNBC prognosis in Indian patients. .



RESEARCH UPDATES

Ongoing projects and manuscripts:

- Advantages of Perforator Flaps in Breast Cancer Surgical Management– A Single Institutional Audit.
- Surgical management of Central Quadrant Tumors – A Single Institutional Audit.
- A single institutional audit of surgical management in Triple Negative Breast Cancers.
- A Cross-Sectional Study Assessing the Impact of a Structured Oncoplastic Training Program on Surgical Practice in India
- Assessing perception of genetic counselling and genetic testing in Breast Cancer Patients.
- Setting up of a complementary nutrition clinic for breast cancer patients at a single surgeon unit from India.
- Breast-Q BCT module translation and linguistic validation to Hindi and Marathi languages.
- Setting up of a complementary onco-psychology counselling for breast cancer patients at a single surgeon unit in India
- Assessing germline mutational profile and its clinicopathological associations in Triple Negative Breast Cancer .
- Triple-negative breast cancer tumor microenvironment profiled for immune infiltrates stratified for treatment response – Indian cohort of breast cancer patients.
- Prognostic significance of Yes-associated protein-1 (YAP1) in molecular subtypes of an Indian cohort of breast cancer patients
- Synergistic effect of YAP and HER2 growth factor receptor signalling in mammary epithelial cell line.

RESEARCH UPDATES: BIOBANK

Biobank is a repository where biological samples that facilitate research studies are conserved and stored, we specifically have breast tissue biobank- Formalin-Fixed and Paraffin-Embedded (FFPE) and Fresh Frozen (FF).



Formalin-Fixed Paraffin-Embedded (FFPE)

FFPE is a way of preservation of tissue samples in a paraffin block. FFPE blocks can be stored up to 12 years at ambient temperature and used for research purposes. With patient consent, we collect both biopsy and surgery blocks for the biobank. Currently the biobank houses over 1500 FFPE blocks.

Total Blocks collected in this month: **39**

Biopsy Blocks: **20** Patients

Surgery Blocks: **19** Patients



Fresh Frozen (FF)

The fresh frozen breast tissue biobank was established to facilitate genomics and proteomics studies. The 'Fresh Frozen' Biobank collects consented fresh frozen breast tissue samples from Tru cut biopsy and VAB procedures. Over 100 patient samples collected till date.

12 Fresh frozen Biopsy and **9** surgery samples collected this month.

Free counselling services at Orchids Breast Health so far

Onco - Psychology Counselling
Free Psychological Counselling services for our Breast Cancer Patients and their Caregivers. We have certified psychologists who work with you in easing your stress.

Psychological Counselling For Breast Cancer Patients

- Overcome Stress and Shock
- Psycho-social adjustment
- Care and Support for the Caregivers
- Stress management
- Deal with health-related anxiety
- Helping underlying psychological issues
- Psychotherapies

At the Orchids Breast Health we encourage our Breast Cancer Patients and their family members to undergo psychological counselling for emotional wellness during cancer treatment.

BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT NOW
(Offered both online (via Zoom) and/or in-person)

Visit us at
12 Kapilvastu, Senapati
Bapat Road, Pune,
Maharashtra 411016

**Onco-Psychology
Counselling - 373**

Onco - Genetic Counselling
Free Genetic Counselling services for our Breast Cancer Patients

At the Orchids Breast Health Clinic, we have BCCG certified genetic counsellors for those of our patients who might need genetic testing.

Breast Cancer Genetic Counselling

To whom is genetic counselling offered?
(According to NCCN guidelines)

- Diagnosed at ≤ 45 yrs.
- Family history of Cancer
- Recurrences
- TNBC
- Personal history of other cancer

What can you expect in a Genetic counselling?

- Risk assessment
- Genetic testing options
- Genetic reports interpretation
- Prevention and Management options
- pedigree charting (Family history)

Counselling offered on all days online (via Zoom) and/or in-person (Thursdays from 4 to 6pm)

Visit us at
12 Kapilvastu, Senapati
Bapat Road, Pune,
Maharashtra 411016

**Onco-Genetic
Counselling- 391**

Onco - Nutrition Clinic
Free Nutrition Counselling services for our Breast Cancer Patients

At the Orchids Breast Health Nutrition Clinic we make you aware of the power of good nutrition and help you make your breast cancer treatment easier.

Nutrition Counselling

- Diet during Chemo and Radiotherapy
- Personalized Charts
- Improved tolerance of treatment
- Decreased fatigue
- Hydration Counselling
- Improved healing and recovery

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**Nutrition
Counselling-461**

PCCM provided 14 Freeships/Major Concession on diagnostics, surgery, chemotherapy, onco-pharmacy, clinical procedures, and consultations at Orchids Breast Health in March 2025.



Mammography



Sonography



Biopsy



Surgery



Chemotherapy





Onco-pharmacy

PCCM appeals for support and donations to help save breast cancer patients

We are ever grateful for your generosity and donations over the years that have helped save the lives of over 10000 young girls & women annually.

As you know breast cancer treatment is a long and arduous process that not only has a physical and emotional impact on the patient but also adds the economic burden of the treatment.

We appeal you to help for 2 breast cancer patients in urgent need of financial support. Below is the list of the needy patients along with their family and support details and treatment estimation.

01.	 <p>Vijayshree Ramlu Nalanaglu (53 Yrs)</p>	<p>Vijayshree Ramlu Nalanaglu (53 years) has stage I breast cancer. She is a homemaker, and her husband is small-scale construction contractor. She has two daughters studying in college. The husband earns minimal income to support the family and the patient's treatment</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="558 1205 1508 1478"> <thead> <tr> <th>Treatment</th> <th>Amount (In Rs.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Chemotherapy</td> <td>1,99,984</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diagnostics and OPD Charges</td> <td>55,985</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Radiation</td> <td>000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Surgery</td> <td>000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>2,55,969</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Treatment	Amount (In Rs.)	Chemotherapy	1,99,984	Diagnostics and OPD Charges	55,985	Radiation	000	Surgery	000	Total	2,55,969
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02.	 <p>Saima Naaz (44 Yrs)</p>	<p>Saima Naaz (44 years) has stage II breast cancer. She is a homemaker, and her husband is unemployed. She has 3 children studying in school. She is supported by her brother for the family's financial needs. Her brother too has his own family to support, limiting his support to the patient.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="558 1787 1508 2049"> <thead> <tr> <th>Treatment</th> <th>Amount (In Rs.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Chemotherapy</td> <td>1,88,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diagnostics and OPD Charges</td> <td>15,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Radiation</td> <td>000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Surgery</td> <td>000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>2,03,500</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Treatment	Amount (In Rs.)	Chemotherapy	1,88,000	Diagnostics and OPD Charges	15,500	Radiation	000	Surgery	000	Total	2,03,500
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PCCM appeals for support and donations to help save breast cancer patients

Every small amount from you would help save the lives of these women and allow them to live a healthy life with their loved ones.

Click to donate:

[DONATE](#) 

Following are the details through which you can donate to Prashanti You may donate via either of the two options:

a. Through the donation page on the website:

<https://www.prashanticancercare.org/donations.php>

or

b. Send us a cheque in favour of “Prashanti Cancer Care Mission”

New Address: 21 Everjoy Bungalow Society, Next to NIBM Institute, before Clover Highlands, NIBM Road, Kondhwa, Pune, Maharashtra-411 048.

***We kindly request you to send all cheques, donations, letters, and posts to this updated address. Do not send them to the previous location at Kapil Vastu.

Please mail your Full Name, PAN Card copy, Mobile Number and Address proof to accounts@prashanticancercare.org so as to enable us to courier or email to you the 80G tax exemption certificate and donation receipt.

Every donation will receive a Receipt, benefit of Tax Deduction under 80G of IT Act 1961 and a Thank you Letter within a week or two.

For any queries, please feel free to contact me personally on 9850251000.

A big thank you once again for all the support over the years. Without your help, it would be impossible to do what we do. God Bless and wishing you and your family a blessed life.

**We would like to thank our
Donors & Supporters
for their unconditional support over the years**

Warm Regards,

**Ms. Laleh Busheri CEO
Prashanti Cancer Care mission
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