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BRCA1/BRCA2

National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)

Source

National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI). [BRCA1/BRCA2](#).

BRCA1 and BRCA2 are the first two genes found to be associated with inherited forms of breast cancer. Both genes normally act as tumor suppressors, meaning that they help regulate cell division. When these genes are rendered inactive due to mutation, uncontrolled cell growth results, leading to breast cancer. Women with mutations in either gene have a much higher risk for developing breast cancer than women without mutations in the genes.