The BRCA2 Mutation and Prostate Cancer
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All men should be aware of an issue regarding prostate cancer, and its connection a gene mutation usually identified with breast cancer, the BRCA2 mutation. When a woman is diagnosed with this mutation following breast cancer, genetically related men should be aware that they are at significantly greater risk for prostate cancer of a more aggressive type, that carries with it significantly higher mortality rates.

Carriers of the BRCA2 mutation have a significantly increased risk of breast, ovarian, Fallopian tube and prostate cancers. Even though genetic testing revealing a family's BRCA2 mutation may have occurred because of a woman's breast cancer diagnosis and testing (probably the most common reason), the genetically related men in the family should take note because of the increased risk of prostate cancer. Of particular concern, in addition to the increased risk, is that the resulting prostate cancer is often the more aggressive type, and mortality is significantly higher than among non-BRCA2 driven cases. This information should be provided to sons, brothers and other male relatives who inherit the gene mutation for their consideration. *(The original research was published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology, April, 2013, Castro et al)*