

EASTER SALE

PACKAGE INCLUDES

- *9.8kw LG Chem Battery Storage
- *16 x LG Neon 300w Solar Panels (4.8kw's)
- *Solax X-Hybrid Gen 3 Inverter
- *Full Installation

***\$9,999.00**

LG ENERGY SOLUTIONS
Complete Home Energy Solution Package on Sale

Call Toll Free **1800 959 979**

Home / Lifestyle

AUGUST 3 2009

SAVE

PRINT
LICENSE ARTICLE

Breast cancer discovery heralds diagnosis hope

Nick Miller

SHARE TWEET MORE

MELBOURNE researchers have found a surprise new culprit behind some of the most dangerous forms of breast cancer — a discovery that has overturned previous assumptions and paves the way for new treatments and tests for the disease.

The breakthrough research came from the study of a unique collection of breast cancer tissue donated by Australian women.

It is expected to benefit women from families that are particularly prone to the disease, as well those who get the “basal” form of the cancer, which is particularly aggressive and the least responsive to current treatments.

A team led by associate professors Jane Visvader and Geoff Lindeman, from the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, made the discovery, which was published this morning in the international journal *Nature Medicine*.

They investigated samples donated through the research network kConFab, by women who have had breast surgery to fight or avoid cancer.

The samples were mostly from the 10 per cent of women who have genetically inherited a much higher risk of breast cancer. Those with the “BRCA1 mutation” have a 65 per cent chance of developing breast cancer in their lifetime.

FINAL TOUR DATES

SPirit of ANZAC
CENTENARY EXPERIENCE

FREE ANZAC EXHIBITION
LAST CHANCE TO VISIT

BOOK NOW

International Convention Centre Sydney
15 - 27 APR 2017

Advertisement

Internet Explorer cannot display this webpage.

What you can try:

- It appears you are connected to the Internet.
- Retype the address.
- Go back to the previous page.

Most likely causes:

Advertisement

The researchers were searching for the original cells that malfunction to begin the spread of cancer. But when team members Elgene Lim and Francois Vaillant identified the culprit it was not what they expected.

“It has been suspected for several years that the breast stem cell might be the culprit for BRCA1 and basal cancers,” Dr Visvader said. “Our research has shown it’s not the stem cell. The primary cell that has gone awry is the ductal progenitor cell.” These cells go on to form the lining of the breast’s ducts.

In the donated tissue, the cell population was much bigger than expected, and they were growing in the absence of normal growth factors. “They had changed,” Dr Visvader said.

A genetic analysis showed a strong link between the tell-tale signatures of these aberrant cells, and the genetic signature of hereditary breast cancer and also basal-type cancer.

About one-in-five breast cancers are basal-type, which are more aggressive and have very few therapies apart from radical surgery and chemotherapy. For example, the new drug herceptin does not seem to be effective against it.

“This (new discovery) places us in a strong position to identify potential drug targets that could be useful for prevention and treatment,” Dr Visvader said.

Dr Lindeman said there were already known markers for the ductal progenitor cells that could be used to diagnose basal-like tumours and help select the best therapy earlier for women with breast cancer.

“I imagine in the near future this is going to make the pathologists’ lives easier,” he said. It could also help spot problems in breast tissue before a tumour started to develop.

He said that breast cancer used to be thought of as a single disease, but was now better understood as a collection of similar cancers, each with a different underlying cause.

He said his team wanted to thank the women who had donated their tissue to kConFab, and helped the researchers make the discovery.

“Without them, this would not have been possible,” he said.

MOST POPULAR

- 1 Ksubi co-founder Dan Single removes \$250k Go Fund Me after backlash
- 2 On my 60th birthday, this is what I wish I knew 30 years ago
- 3 Australian politicians commit to legalising same-sex marriage, thanks to Airbnb
- 4 The 'BS' response on Q&A shocked us, but the woman was right
- 5 At our first meeting, my future mother-in-law handed me a questionnaire

FOLLOW DAILY LIFE

FACEBOOK

TWITTER

FOLLOW SMH

NEWSLETTERS

LG ENERGY SOLUTIONS Complete Home Green Solution Package available

PACKAGE INCLUDES

- *9.8kw LG Chem Battery Storage
- *16 x LG Neon 300w Solar Panels (4.8kw's)
- *Solax X-Hybrid Gen 3 Inverter
- *Full Installation

***\$9,999.00**

EASTER SALE

Call Toll Free **1800 950 975**

RECOMMENDED



United launches new drag on/drag off seating

NEWS



Brilliant Trick To Save Hundreds on Electricity

ELECTRICITY AND GAS



Schapelle Corby prepares for deportation to Australia

NEWS



Childcare subsidy calculator: Better or worse off?

GOODSTART EARLY LEARNING



Orlando Bloom Gets Candid About Those Nude Paddleboarding...

HUFFINGTON POST



Experience the latest in a distinguished bloodline.

JAGUAR



Leopard Print Hair Is Fast Becoming The Latest Style Trend

HUFFINGTON POST



Exchange Traded Funds – The Reasons Behind Their Growing...

AMP CAPITAL



How airlines decide who gets kicked off an overbooked flight

BUSINESS



Apply for car & equipment finance today.

COMMBANK

powered by pilista

EASTER SALE

PACKAGE INCLUDES

- *9.8kw LG Chem Battery Storage
- *16 x LG Neon 300w Solar Panels (4.8kw's)
- *Solax X-Hybrid Gen 3 Inverter
- *Full Installation

\$9,999.00

Call Toll Free **1800 959 975**

LG ENERGY SOLUTIONS
Complete Home Energy Solution Package on Stock

COMPARE & SAVE



Internet Explorer ca

What you can try:

- It appears you are i
- Retype the address



Internet Explorer ca

What you can try:

- It appears you are i
- Retype the address



Internet Explorer ca

What you can try:

- It appears you are i
- Retype the address



Internet Explorer ca

What you can try:

- It appears you are i
- Retype the address

MOST VIEWED TODAY

LIFESTYLE

At our first meeting, my future mother-in-law handed me a

'Do you want to get a hotel room?' Investor made indecent proposal at

Legionnaires' outbreak linked to CBD

Ksubi co-founder Dan Single removes \$250k Go Fund Me after

15 Qantas passengers injured in serious mid-air incident

'Do you want to get a hotel room?' Investor made indecent proposal at

On my 60th birthday, this is what I wish I knew 30 years ago

China rebuffs Trump North Korea tweet with niceties

John Clarke's daughter says 'nothing could have been done' to

From heartbreak to hope: watching my baby girl fight for survival

John Clarke's daughter says 'nothing could have been done' to

15 Qantas passengers injured in serious mid-air incident

Cosmo faces backlash after woman's cancer was used as weight

Sydney's richest suburbs revealed

Melbourne scientists make groundbreaking cancer discovery

GET STARTED

Subscribe today for unlimited access from only 50c a day

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

- AM Edition
- PM Edition
- SMH for iPad
- Today's Paper
- Subscribe
- Manage My Subscription
- Subscriber Hub
- Corporate Subscriptions
- Digital Subscription FAQs
- Good Food Guide
- The Store by Fairfax
- Newsletters

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

- Sitemap
- About Us
- Contact Us
- Subscribers
- Advertise With Us
- Text Version
- Site Accessibility Guide

CLASSIFIEDS

- Place an Ad
- Cars
- Dating
- Jobs
- Real Estate
- Commercial Real Estate
- Oneflare
- Nabo
- Tributes
- Celebrations

OUR SITES

- SMH
- The Age
- AFR.com
- Adzuna
- Domain
- Drive
- RSVP
- Essential Baby
- Home Price Guide
- Weatherzone

WEBSITE FEEDBACK