

Letter from Gabrielle Whiting to The Australian Cancer Council.

Gabrielle Whiting's letters are superbly well-written and extensively researched. There is just one correction. The U.S. National Cancer Institute has not changed its position that the abortion-breast cancer link is "non-existent." In the study, Dolle et al. 2009, National Cancer Institute branch chief, Louise Brinton, and colleagues at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center admitted that "...induced abortion and oral contraceptive use were associated with an increased risk for breast cancer."

29 January 2010

Professor David Hill
Cancer Council Victoria
1 Rathdowne St
Carlton VIC 3053

Dear Professor Hill,

N.C.I. (U.S.) Admission of Induced Abortion as a Risk Factor for Breast Cancer
Urgent Action Required by Australian Cancer Authorities

Regardless of -

- (a) an abundance of published peer-reviewed epidemiological evidence, that has accumulated since 1957, for an increased risk of breast cancer with induced abortion (including over 18 studies finding a statistically significant increase in risk¹⁻¹⁸),
- (b) the findings of an actuary using mathematical formulae that, of seven known risk factors, induced abortion is the best predictor of breast cancer (the author of the study used the same mathematical model for a previous forecast that proved accurate for predicting cancers observed in earlier years),¹⁹
- (c) the recent publication of case control studies originating outside the purview of the National Cancer Institute (U.S.) (N.C.I.) on groups in Turkey and China, finding a statistically significant increase in risk of breast cancer with induced abortion,^{20,21}
- (d) the scientifically valid refutation of flawed studies that claimed to repudiate the evidence for the induced abortion / breast cancer risk²²⁻²⁴ (see also Professor Joel Brind's analysis of the Beral et al collaborative [Oxford] study [*The Lancet* 2004] on the Breast Cancer Prevention Institute's web site²⁵),
- (e) the published analyses by various experts of the rejection of the valid science finding increased risk of breast cancer with induced abortion,²⁶⁻²⁸
- (f) the exposure of a fraudulent 2008 study, co-funded by the N.C.I. and co-authored by a member of the N.C.I., that claimed to refute the link,²⁹⁻³¹
- (g) a plausible and unrefuted biological explanation for the link,^{32,33}
- (h) the successful suing of abortion providers in U.S. and Australia for failure to inform women of the risk (in which the defendants negotiated out-of-court settlements to prevent the scientific evidence of the abortion / breast cancer risk being aired in Court),
- (i) the success of information campaigns by Endeavour Forum Inc. and others^a, including web sites such as that of the Breast Cancer Prevention Institute³⁴ and YouTube videos³⁵ (that have reached many Australians including politicians, the public and employees of print and broadcast media), on the evidence for an increased risk of breast cancer with induced abortion

- the N.C.I. has hitherto denied that induced abortion increases the risk of breast cancer.

Australian cancer authorities have failed to acknowledge the strength of the evidence and ensure that women are informed of this serious risk for a terminal disease, typically advising to the effect that these studies must be treated with caution! Caution towards whom? The hapless women who may be exposed to a terminal, mutilating disease?

In a recent published peer-reviewed study finding an association between oral contraceptive use and triple negative breast cancer in women under 45, that is co-authored by Dr Louise Brinton of the N.C.I. who had previously influenced the N.C.I. to deny the abortion / breast cancer risk, **the N.C.I. has now admitted increased risk of breast cancer with induced abortion.**³⁶ The study's results included "Specifically, older age, family history of breast cancer, earlier menarche age, induced abortion, and oral contraceptive use were associated with an increased risk for breast cancer."

Table 1 in the published study listed induced abortion under "known and suspected risk factors" and revealed a statistically significant 40% risk increase for women who have had induced abortions.

Australian cancer authorities must avoid creating a perception in the community, which has become increasingly well-informed of the issue, that they are not dealing with the induced abortion / breast cancer risk because of a desire to preserve the status of abortion as a safe procedure.

Endeavour Forum Inc. believes we act on behalf of all Australian women when we call for Cancer Australia, the Cancer Council of Australia and the Cancer Council Victoria to revise their previous position on this issue and, without further delay, inform the public and conduct a dedicated education campaign on this serious risk for a terminal disease.

As a corollary to this we recommend that abortionists be required (a) to include advice in abortion consent forms that women increase their risk of breast cancer with induced abortion and (b) to personally counsel women requesting abortion on the risk.

Women will be assisted much more by being empowered to make informed choices with respect to breast cancer risks than by all the daffodil days, pink ribbon days and jumping around in pink suits.

The failure to date to inform women of the increased risk of breast cancer with induced abortion is scandalous. Any further delay in informing the public and the Australian and State and Territory Governments of this risk would be a scandal of even greater enormity. Thousands more Australian women may die or suffer treatment for the early progress of the disease and mutilation. The evidence has increased, as have admissions by medical and cancer authorities including the key N.C.I.^b, to a point at which it is simply impossible for it to be withheld from the Australian public.

Yours sincerely,

Gabrielle Whiting
Research Officer
Endeavour Forum Inc.

cc: Professor Ian Olver, Member Advisory Council, Cancer Australia & Chief Executive Officer, Cancer Council Australia

^aSee copy enclosed of "In denial over the abortion/breast cancer link" by Terri Kelleher, *Journal of the Australian Family Association* 2009;30(3):30-37.

^bCancer institutes and medical groups that recognize the link include:-

Breast Cancer Prevention Institute, New Jersey, U.S.A; National Physicians Center for Family Resources, Birmingham, Alabama, U.S.A; Catholic Medical Association U.S.A.; American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists; The Polycarp Research Institute, Altoona, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.; Ethics and Medics, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.; MaterCare International, Newfoundland, Canada; Breast

Care Center-EAMC, Quezon City, Philippines. The Association of American Physicians and Surgeons supports disclosure of research supporting the induced abortion / breast cancer link.

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