



Breast Cancer Control in California:
**Progress through
Collaboration, Public Health
Practice, and Research**
Henry Etta Waters, R.N., B.S., M.N.





Cancer Detection Programs: Every Woman Counts

Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP)

The Mission of the BCRP is to reduce the impact of breast cancer in California by supporting research on breast cancer and facilitating the dissemination of research findings and their translation into public health practice.



California Breast and Cervical Advisory Council (BCCAC)

- **Mission-** To advise the California Department of Health Services how to reduce morbidity and mortality from breast and cervical cancer among all low-income women throughout California by providing access to high quality screening, early detection and diagnostic services, and
- To strongly and continually advocate for a sustainable source of funding for *Cancer Detection Programs: Every Woman Counts* programs and treatment services.
- To advocate for these services to all California women.



CALIFORNIA PLAN TO
PREVENT AND CONTROL
BREAST & CERVICAL CANCER

STRATEGIES FOR CANCER PREVENTION AND CONTROL FOR YEARS 2000-2005

October 2000

A Collaborative Plan Developed by
The Breast and Cervical Cancer Plan
Task Force

California Plan

- Created by a diverse task force
- Articulates strategies to address gaps
- Identifies opportunities for collaboration with potential partners and supporters



Cancer Detection Programs: Every Woman Counts

Focus of Plan/ Efforts

- Risk Reduction and Prevention
- Detection
- Treatment



Cancer Detection Programs: Every Woman Counts

Risk Reduction and Prevention

- Goal- To prevent or delay development of breast and cervical cancer in California.



Risk Reduction and Prevention: Selected Research -Related Strategies

- Fund and support increased research into the roles of endogenous and environmental (synthetic and naturally occurring) estrogens and their interactions in relation to breast cancer risk.
- Increase research funds for multidisciplinary, innovative, collaborative and translational research.



Detection

- Goal- To promote, increase, and optimize the availability and appropriate utilization of high-quality breast and cervical cancer screening and follow-up services.



Detection: Selected Research- Related Strategies

- Support basic behavioral research on the role of culture in efforts to improve screening utilization and follow-up of screening abnormalities to add to the knowledge base that informs behavior change interventions among culturally diverse communities.
- Use state funding for increased research on detection technology related to screening, including breast cancer screening for pre-menopausal women.



Detection: Selected Research- Related Strategies (continued)

- Use state funding for increased research on social and behavioral factors related to screening.
- Develop and implement mechanisms to regularly disseminate and translate results of social/ behavioral research into community-based programs.



Detection: Selected Research- Related Strategies (continued)

- Design, implement, fund and evaluate breast and cervical cancer early detection demonstration projects in collaboration with community-based organizations, medical schools, and research centers.
- Coordinate with other research efforts nationwide to learn from their efforts and avoid duplication.



Treatment

- Goal 1- Better define quality of care for cancer treatment.
- Goal 2- Increase access to state-of-the art treatment for breast and cervical cancer based on scientific evidence.
- Goal 3- Advance public policy to improve breast and cervical cancer treatment and access to treatment.



Treatment: Research- Related Strategies

- Support additional research about the influence of various factors on survivors' quality of life, such as family support, spirituality, finances, education, nutrition and physical activity.
- Develop or improve models of case management that encompass the physical, social, emotional/spiritual, and financial impacts on a person's life that could be adapted for use in a variety of health care settings and systems.



Treatment: Research- Related Strategies- (continued)

- Support increased research, including clinical trials, about emerging technologies, such as gene therapy, and disseminate findings.
- Support research into improved models of care and support pilot and demonstration projects that apply these research findings.



Treatment: Research- Related Strategies (continued)

- Fund additional research on treatment outcomes that is culturally specific and includes the cost of participation, such as transportation, child care, and time lost from work, and disseminate findings as appropriate.
- Support more research, including clinical trials, to evaluate the use and efficacy of complementary approaches to treatment, and disseminate findings from new and existing research through professional and lay educational symposia and electronic and print media that reach culturally diverse populations.



Cancer Detection Programs: Every Woman Counts

Treatment: Research Strategies (continued)

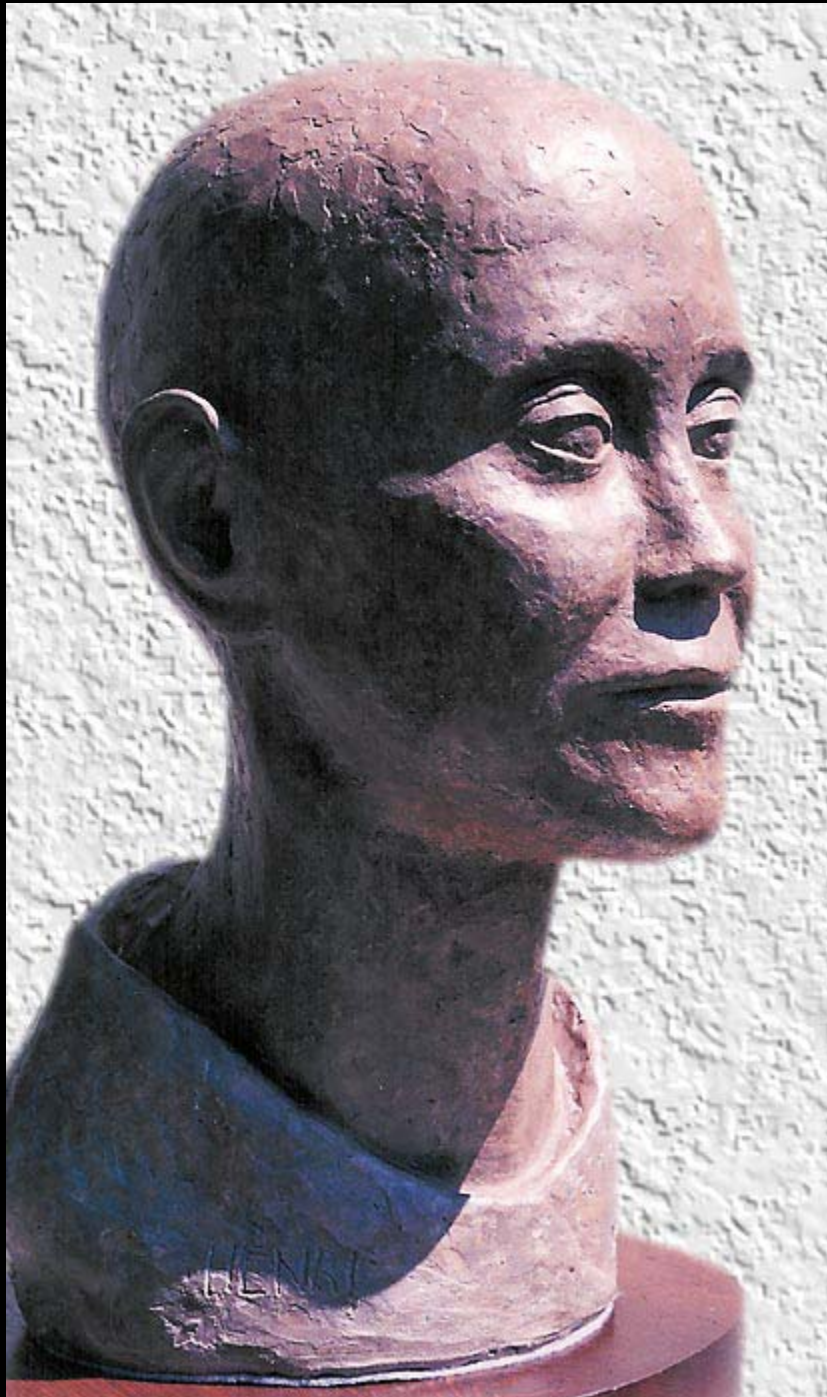
- Support and evaluate translational activities that apply complementary research findings to community and provider settings



Cancer Detection Programs: Every Woman Counts

Future Directions

- Funding (State and Federal)
- Staffing
- Proposition 54
- Collaboration



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Ms. Waters is Vice Chair for the California Breast and Cervical Cancer Advisory Council and has been an active participant in the Council since her appointment in April 1997. She is a Honorary Life Member for the American Cancer Society, California Division. Ms. Waters received her Masters in Nursing from University of California, Los Angeles. She was appointed Professor Emeritus at California State University, Los Angeles.