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Prevalence of *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* Mutations in Breast Cancer Patients in Russia

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Background & Hypothesis:

Breast cancer (BRCA) is the most common neoplastic disease in women. Being mostly sporadic, about 5-10% of cases are genetically determined. Women with inherited mutation in the BRCA genes have a significant increase in risk of breast cancer and certain other cancers. *5382insC*, *185delAG*, *4153delA* in *BRCA1* and *6174delT* in *BRCA2* genes are the most known mutations in these tumour suppressor genes.

Methods:

The study enrolled 217 women (mean age 54.2 ± 7.5 years) with breast cancer from the regional oncology dispensary with histologically verified diagnosis and 160 healthy women (mean age 54.4 ± 11.0 years) as a control group. After extraction of DNA from peripheral blood using phenol-chloroform method, all samples were genotyped for *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* polymorphisms by real-time PCR using TaqMan technology for allele discrimination.

Results:

The analysis of the frequency *BRCA1/2* mutations showed that among 217 patients with breast cancer, 7 women had *BRCA1 5382insC* variant (3.2%) and no one had *185delAG*, *4153delA* in *BRCA1* and *6174delT* mutations in *BRCA2*. Screenings for these mutations in 160 healthy women showed the homozygosity status.

Discussion & Conclusion:

Compared with some other published papers, this one confirms frequent occurrence of *BRCA1 5382insC* variant in geographically distant regions of Russia, such as Moscow (3.5%), St Petersburg (4.0%), and Siberia region (1.92%). The presented data point to a conspicuous contribution of *BRCA1 5382insC* mutation in breast cancer development in Belgorod region of Russia that may justify an extended *BRCA1 5382insC* screening among women of our population.