



The Breast Health Global Initiative

Introduction

The global breast cancer problem cannot be solved in a single large step. It takes small incremental steps in different parts of the world at different times that allow advances to be made.

Background

Since established in 2002, the Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI) has become a world leader in women's health initiatives through its pioneering development of the first comprehensive clinical *Guidelines for International Breast Health and Cancer Control* ("Guidelines") for breast health care delivery and cancer control in for low- and middle-income countries (LMCs), intended to assist ministers of health, policy makers, health care institutions and others to prioritize resource allocation in breast care programs in LMCs.

Co-sponsored by the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and Susan G. Komen for the Cure®, the BHGI, headquartered in Seattle, was established by Benjamin O. Anderson, M.D., BHGI Chair and Director, as an ongoing outcomes-oriented global health alliance with a mission to develop, implement and study evidence-based, economically feasible, and culturally appropriate Guidelines for "best practices with limited resources" for LMCs to improve breast health outcomes around the world for medically underserved women.

Dr. Anderson is Professor of Surgery and Joint Professor in the Department of Global Health at the University of Washington, Director of the Breast Health Clinic at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, and Full Member in the Division of Public Health Sciences at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

The BHGI, a foundation for relationships with vital global organizations and leaders with interests in breast cancer, serves as a **hub** for linkages and catalyst for international pilot research, and demonstration and education projects with global partners, producing tangible outcomes.

Through the BHGI biennial series of *Global Summit(s) on International Breast Health* (2002, 2005, 2007), the organization developed a model approach for Guidelines to effectively detect, diagnose and treat breast cancer LMCs, producing three successful Global Summits on International Breast Health that produced three consecutive published editions of the Guidelines. The fourth Global Summit, held in 2010, produced a supplement of consensus statements and special reports to The Breast on optimizing delivery of global breast health care in LMCs. An executive summary of these consensus statements on optimizing delivery of global breast health care was published in *The Lancet Oncology*.

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The GLOBAL SUMMIT SERIES

Seattle, 2002 Global Summit: [Health Care Disparities](#)

Bethesda, 2005 Global Summit: [Resource Stratification](#)

Budapest, 2007 Global Summit: [Guideline Implementation](#)

Chicago, 2010 Global Summit: [Optimizing Healthcare Delivery](#)

GLOBAL SUMMIT 2002 (SEATTLE): [Health Care Disparities](#)

("International Breast Health Care: Guidelines for Countries with Limited Healthcare Resources," *Breast Journal*, May/June 2003: Vol. 9, Suppl. 2); http://portal.bhgi.org/CIG/Library/2003_BHGI%2001-Consensus%20Overview.pdf

GLOBAL SUMMIT 2005 (BETHESDA): [Resource Stratification](#)

("Guidelines for International Breast Health and Cancer Control," *Breast Journal* 2006:12, Suppl 1:S117-120); <http://portal.bhgi.org/CIG/Library/2006%20BHGI%2001-Consensus%20Overview.pdf>

GLOBAL SUMMIT 2007 (BUDAPEST): [Guideline Implementation](#)

("Guidelines for International Breast Health and Cancer Control—Implementation," *Cancer* Volume 113, Issue S8, Pages i-ix, 2215-2371); <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cncr.v113:8+/issuetoc>

GLOBAL SUMMIT 2010 (CHICAGO): [Optimizing Healthcare Delivery](#)

Summit 2010 (Chicago): Optimizing Healthcare Delivery **THE BREAST & THE LANCET ONCOLOGY, 2011**

► *Global Breast Health Care: Optimizing Delivery in Low- and Middle-Resource Countries*, A Supplement of Consensus Statements & Special Reports (3 consensus articles; 11 special reports) to The Breast

► *Optimizing Breast Cancer Management in Low and Middle Resource Countries (LMCs): Executive, Summary of the Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI) Consensus Recommendations 2010*, The Lancet Oncology

BHGI VISION FOR IMPLEMENTATION: Strategic Implementation Science Projects

In 2009, with a shifting of focus from development and expansion of the *Guidelines for International Breast Health and Cancer Control* to address effective implementation and integration of breast health care interventions described in the Guidelines, the BHGI began its next phase of innovation with a multi-year plan for Guidelines implementation, collaborating with global, regional and local organizations to pioneer the development of **LEARNING LABORATORIES (LL)** to define critical in-country methodology for establishing or expanding breast cancer care programs in low- and middle-resource countries (LMCs) through a diverse portfolio of implementation science projects.

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BHGI VISION FOR IMPLEMENTATION: Strategic Implementation Science Projects

The purpose of BHGI Learning Laboratories is to establish educational and research pilot projects that will form the basis for breast health program expansion in LMCs with a clear, compelling global vision to fulfill global health needs while creating opportunities for international collaboration with international partners with shared interests.

The first BHGI Learning Laboratory was established in Kumasi, Ghana, West Africa in 2009 with a program focus on development and testing of education and training modules that will serve as core training curricula.

An integral component of the BHGI implementation mission is to provide **transformational collaborative opportunities and innovative 'system-based' solutions**, designed to address specific issues of optimizing breast health care and cancer treatment in LMCs. Thus, in 2009, BHGI developed a technical foundation for international collaboration, dialoguing and information dissemination through www.bhgi.info, an interactive web-based portal. This virtual environment includes a "BREAST HEALTH-COMMON INTEREST GROUP" and an 'open access' searchable Literature Library populated with thousands of citations relevant to breast cancer in LMCs. As a knowledge broker, the BHGI virtual environment is a core resource for our work, enabling international research collaborations with colleagues around the globe.

Through a diverse portfolio of implementation science projects, a process of effective **knowledge transfer** to successfully achieve improved health outcomes, BHGI is working with international partners, clinical communities, public health researchers and advocacy groups to take theory into practice.

For detailed information about the BHGI and our Global Portfolio of Implementation Science Projects, and alliance of organizations, please visit www.bhgi.info or contact Leslie Sullivan, Managing Director, Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI), Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Tel: 206-667-2545; 206-465-4217; email: lsulliva@fhcrc.org

BHGI Co-Sponsors

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center is world renowned in cancer research and a global leader in the field with the mission of the elimination of cancer as a cause of human suffering and death. www.fhcrc.org

Susan G. Komen for the Cure® is a global leader in advocacy and the fight against breast cancer through its support of innovative research and community-based outreach programs. ww5.komen.org



The Breast Health Global Initiative

BENEFACTOR ORGANIZATIONS

Founding Organizations



Global Summit on International Breast Health: Optimizing Healthcare Delivery

June 9 – 11, 2010 • Chicago, IL

Held in association with:



Sociedad Latinoamericana y del Caribe de Oncología Médica
Latin American and Caribbean Society of Medical Oncology

Sustaining Scientific Partner

Office of International Affairs,
National Cancer Institute

Scientific Partners



THE LANCET Oncology



Corporate Partners

GE Healthcare



Collaborating Organizations

LIVESTRONG • Office on Women's Health, U.S. DHHS • U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention • U.S. National Cancer Institute, Office of Science Planning and Assessment • U.S. National Institutes of Health, Office of Research on Women's Health

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

American Society of Breast Disease • World Health Organization • Breast Surgery International • International Union Against Cancer • International Network for Cancer Treatment and Research • International Atomic Energy Agency of the United Nations • Oncology Nursing Society • International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care • Middle East Cancer Consortium • Woman's Cancer Foundation

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